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39TH CONGRESS, 2d Session. } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. { EX. DOC. No. 76.

U. S. Dept. of state

MESSAGE

OF THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

OF

JANUARY 29, 1867,

RELATING TO

THE PRESENT CONDITION OF MEXICO,

IN ANSWER TO

A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF DECEMBER 4, 1866.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1867.

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MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

IN ANSWER TO

A resolution of the House of December 4, last, relative to the present condition of Mexico.

FEBRUARY 1, 1867.—Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

To the House of Representatives:

In compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 4th of December last, requesting information upon the present condition of affairs in the republic of Mexico, and with one of the 18th of the same month, desiring me to communicate to the House of Representatives copies of all correspondence on the subject of the evacuation of Mexico by the French troops, not before officially published, I transmit a report from the Secretary of State, and the papers accompanying it.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

WASHINGTON, *January* 29, 1867.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, January 29, 1867.

The Secretary of State, to whom was referred the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 4th of December, 1866, requesting the President, "if in his opinion not incompatible with the public interest, to communicate to this House any correspondence or other information in possession of the government relative to the present condition of affairs in our sister republic of Mexico, and especially any letters of the minister at Washington from said republic, and the French minister relating thereto;" also the resolution of the 18th of December, 1866, requesting the President "to communicate to this house copies of all correspondence on the subject of the evacuation of Mexico by the French troops which has not heretofore been officially published," has the honor to lay before the President the papers mentioned in the subjoined list.

Respectfully submitted:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

The PRESIDENT.

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31. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero .....July 30, 1866
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62. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero .....Nov. 20, 1866
63. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward .....Nov. 20, 1866
64. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero .....Nov. 29, 1866
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110. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward ..... Nov. 1, 1866
111. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero ..... Nov. 9, 1866
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190. Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.....Nov. 9, 1866
191. Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward. .....Nov. 21, 1866
192. Same to same .....Nov. 23, 1866
193. Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.....Nov. 30, 1866
194. Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.....Dec. 1, 1866
195. Same to same ....Dec. 1, 1866
196. Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell .....Dec. 15, 1866
197. Same to same.....Dec. 6, 1866
198. Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward .....Dec. 13, 1866
199. Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell .....Dec. 27, 1866
200. Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward .....Dec. 24, 1866
201. Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell. .....Dec. 29, 1866
202. Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward .....Dec. 24, 1866
203. Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.....Dec. 25, 1866
204. Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward .....Dec. 31, 1866
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210. Same to same ....Feb- 23, 1865
211. Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams. .....Mar. 25, 1865
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214. Mr. Seward to Mr. Dayton .....April 7, 1864
215. Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow .....Feb. 13, 1865
216. Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward.....Mar. 10, 1865
217. Same to same ....Mar. 17, 1865
218. Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.....Mar. 27, 1865
219. Same to same .....Mar. 30, 1865
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221. Mr. Hunter to Mr. Bigelow .....Oct. 19, 1865
222. Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.....Oct. 30, 1865

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224. Same to same ....Feb. 26, 1865
225. Mr. Motley to Mr. Hunter .....June 5, 1865

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226. Mr. Wright to Mr. Seward.....Nov. 15, 1865

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229. Same to same ....April 12, 1865
230. Same to same ....May 29, 1865
231. Same to same ....May 31, 1865

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233. Same to same ....June 5, 1865
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237. Same to same ....May 24, 1865
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245. Mr. Morris to Mr. Seward.....Mar. 29, 1865
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251. Mr. Seward to Mr. Hale .....Sept. 21, 1865
252. Mr. Hale to Mr. Seward .....Oct. 27, 1865
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254. Same to same .....Nov. 18, 1865
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256. Mr. Hale to Mr. Seward .....Nov. 27, 1865

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261. Mr. Seward to Mr. Roberts .....Dec. 26, 1866

No. 1.

CONDITION OF AFFAIRS IN MEXICO.

List of papers.

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1.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	March 20, 1866.
2.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 5, 1866.
3.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	April 2, 1866.
4.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 5, 1866.
5.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	April 14, 1866.
6.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 5, 1866.
7.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	April 15, 1866.
8.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 5, 1866.
9.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	May 9, 1866.
10.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	May 18, 1866.
11.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 6, 1866.
12.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	May 28, 1866.
13.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 7, 1866.
14.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	June 10, 1866.
15.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 7, 1866.
16.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	June 14, 1866.
17.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 7, 1866.
18.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	June 19, 1866.
19.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 7, 1866.
20.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	July 4, 1866.
21.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 12, 1866.
22.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	July 8, 1866.
23.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 16, 1866.
24.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	July 10, 1866.
25.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 23, 1866.
26.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	July 21, 1866.
27.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 31, 1866.
28.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	July 21, 1866.
29.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 25, 1866.
30.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	July 24, 1866.
31.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 30, 1866.
32.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	July 31, 1866.
33.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	Aug. 5, 1866.
34.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	Aug. 9, 1866.
35.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	Aug. 16, 1866.
36.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	Aug. 15, 1866.
37.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	Aug. 23, 1866.
38.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	Aug. 26, 1866.
39.	Mr. Hunter to Mr. Romero	Aug. 30, 1866.
40.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	Aug. 27, 1866.
41.	Mr. Hunter to Mr. Romero	Aug. 30, 1866.
42.	Mr. F. W. Seward to Mr. Romero	Sept. 20, 1866.
43.	Mr. Romero to Mr. F. W. Seward	Sept. 20, 1866.
44.	Mr. F. W. Seward to Mr. Romero	Sept. 21, 1866.
45.	Mr. Romero to Mr. F. W. Seward	Sept. 21, 1866.
46.	Mr. Romero to Mr. F. W. Seward	Sept. 23, 1866.
47.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	Sept. 24, 1866.
48.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	Oct. 2, 1866.
49.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	Sept. 30, 1866.
50.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	Oct. 9, 1866.

51. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....Oct. 5, 1866.
52. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Oct. 12, 1866.
53. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....Oct. 10, 1866.
54. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Oct. 15, 1866.
55. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....Oct. 12, 1866.
56. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Nov. 15, 1866.
57. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....Nov. 5, 1866.
58. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Nov. 13, 1866.
59. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....Nov. 9, 1866.
60. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Nov. 15, 1866.
61. Mr. Romero to Mr. F. W. Seward.....Nov. 16, 1866.
62. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Nov. 20, 1866.
63. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....Nov. 20, 1866.
64. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Nov. 29, 1866.
65. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....Nov. 22, 1866.
66. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Nov. 29, 1866.
67. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....Dec. 14, 1866.
68. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Dec. 17, 1866.
69. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....Dec. 21, 1866.
70. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Jan. 9, 1867.
71. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....Dec. 22, 1867.
72. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Jan. 2, 1867.
73. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....Dec. 27, 1866.
74. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Jan. 2, 1867.

No. 1.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, March 20, 1866.

MR. SECRETARY: I have the honor to enclose you some extracts from the Moniteur Universel, of Paris, containing that portion of deputy Glais-Bizoin's speech in the French legislature on the 27th of February last, during the debate on the discourse from the throne in relation to Mexican affairs. I also enclose with this note the brief discussion of the same subject in the house, on the 2d instant, when Mr. Rouher's (the minister of state) proposal in regard to the Mexican expedition was adopted, and the debate upon it reserved for a future occasion, against the protests of the opposition. The pretext alleged by Mr. Rouher to avoid debate on Mexican affairs was, that certain communications to the so-called government of Maximilian had not been answered yet, and, of course, no report could be made to the house concerning them. Thus, instead of postponing the discussion of the paragraph, the controling influence of the imperial government caused the vote to be taken, and the proposal was adopted.

I refrain from comment on this strange proceeding, because I think it unnecessary.

I profit by the opportunity to repeat to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[From the Moniteur Universel, the official paper of the French empire—Paris, Wednesday, January 28, 1866, No. 59, page 222.]

Mr. Glais-Bizoin, having secured the floor, rises and says:

GENTLEMEN: The decree of the 24th of November has granted us the right—for we are now living in the reign of grants, like the Restoration, a reign very unlike the noble and generous American system, that leaves the people to enjoy their rights and the President to do good or evil for four years—I say this decree has granted us the right to express our sentiments concerning the management of affairs to the chief power, to show him our wishes and the necessities of the country; and it is now our duty to speak truth where flattery has prevailed.

To accomplish this—and here I agree with Mr. Pamard, and it is perhaps the only thing in which we agree, [laughter,]—eloquence is not necessary; but we must have that holy love of liberty, dearer to us than life itself, and without which we would consent to that moral decay in which our country is kept, when it should be the leader in progress—— [Murmurs and exclamations in different directions.]

GRANIER DE CASSAGNAC. This is too bad! We will not stand such abuse!

President WALEWSKI. Mr. Glais-Bizoin, I shall have to call you to order if you go on so. I hope you will consider my advice. [Good! good!]

GLAIS-BIZOIN. Much obliged to you, Mr. President. I was going to say, when it should be the leader in progress and emancipation.

Whatever strength this sentiment gives me, I am embarrassed by the multiplicity of questions suggested by the discourse from the Crown. These questions are confused by a fault in the constitution that denies us the right of introducing a bill, and the power of distributing the business equally through the session, and discussing the plans and projects, as was formerly done, and is still practiced in all representative parliamentary governments.

But we are compelled to accept the situation, whatever it may be, and to make the best of it or the worst of it. [Smiles in parts of the house.]

These questions may be ranged into two categories: accidental questions, such as of finances and foreign affairs, and questions of a permanent interest, touching our liberties, which cannot be solved without implicating the constitution. Let us consider the first.

The author of the Crown speech glances over the political globe, wherever French arms are engaged, and with the satisfaction of the God that speaks in the book of Genesis, says: "Behold, my work is very good!"

BELMONTET. He is right.

GLAIS-BIZOIN. What does Mr. Belmontet say?

BELMONTET. I say he is right, the Emperor Napoleon. [Approving laugh.]

GLAIS-BIZOIN. But he turns away from Poland, once the object of his solicitude, where a death-like silence reigns.

On beholding our former friend and ally in the north devoured by the double-headed eagles of Prussia and Austria, he is pleased and grieved. Can the minister of state explain these contradictory emotions?

At Rome, in Italy, the work is good. The convention of the fifteenth of September will be enforced.

Gentlemen, we are about to quit Rome, where we went to save the Pope, and robbed him of two-thirds of his domain, just lessening his wordly cares by two-thirds. [Laughter and applause.]

We quit Rome with the hate of the ultra-clerical party that called us, and the hate of Romans who never saw armed foreigners before within their walls, and I thank them for it. We quit Rome, hated by the republican party, because France put it down. And, finally, we quit Rome after spending more than four hundred millions there, the abundant fruits of that expedition.

We went to Cochin China to please the ultra-clerical party, and now we are obliged to stay there. Algeria is the only place where we are not progressing.

The author of the Crown speech [interrupted by several members: Why don't you say the emperor?] glancing towards Mexico, says again: "Behold, my work is very good! there is a government made by the will of the people," and let me add, by 40,000 French bayonets. [Sundry exclamations.] Gentlemen, that is so.

President WALEWSKI. Mr. Glais-Bizoin, I call you to order; not by 40,000 bayonets, but by the will of all the French people.

GUEROULT. Does the gentleman mean Mexico?

JULES FAVRE. He is called to order on the emperor Maximilian's account.

GLAIS-BIZOIN. I think there is a mistake, Mr. President, a misunderstanding on your part, and I would like to proceed with my speech.

President WALEWSKI. We do not hear you; speak louder, and there will be no mistake.

GLAIS-BIZOIN. I thought so, Mr. President. What I stated was a fact. I was saying that the Emperor, in speaking of the government founded by the people——

MAGNIN. In Mexico?

GLAIS-BIZOIN. Yes, in Mexico.

SEVERAL VOICES. Why didn't you say so, then?

GLAIS-BIZOIN. I began the sentence by saying: Glancing towards Mexico——

SEVERAL MEMBERS. We did not hear that part.

PICCIONI. As there was a mistake, I hope the call to order will not appear in the report.

GLAIS-BIZOIN. They say that order reigns in Mexico. Yes, order is maintained by Belgian and Austrian troops, paid with money taken from the purses of our tax-payers; maintained by Turcos, who give no quarter; so the Moniteur says—horrid thought!—[murmurs;] maintained by our brave soldiers, that an abominable decree has converted into butchers for Maximilian. Ah, I thank Marshal Bazaine for refusing to execute the decree, and thus saving our flag from a stain that could never have been washed out.

They say the Mexican government is becoming strong. That expression may quiet the official world, but it will not satisfy the anxiety of the business world and those sound minds who compare this expedition with the Spanish war, one of the causes of the fall of the first empire. [Oh! oh!] Gentlemen, you all know the history of the first empire. The war with Spain was called memorable by a senate that did not bury all cowardice. [Noise.]

History will have a hard page for this expedition. It will tell how foolish it was, and show the diplomatic duplicity that caused it. To see this we have only to refer to the diplomatic correspondence of 1859 between the French and Spanish governments, and more particularly to the despatch of the minister of foreign affairs in 1861 to Count Flahaut, our ambassador to England, in which the Maximilian affair is discussed. You must next read the tripartite convention to satisfy claims on Mexico See Article 2, where it says the high contracting parties bind themselves not to exert any influence upon the internal affairs of the Mexican government.

The allies had no sooner appeared at Vera Cruz than the Mexican government called for quarter, and the treaty of Soledad was concluded, Mexico granting all claims demanded. But the French government refused to honor the signature of her representative, one of the most noted personages in our country. [Interruptions.] Do you deny it? He was made senator.

MINISTER OF STATE. You are mistaken; you are not acquainted with the facts.

GLAIS-BIZOIN. Our allies left us, because they did not wish to destroy a government after they had promised to respect it, and place an Austrian prince upon the throne.

General Prim's remarkable letter foretold what has happened. [Ironical exclamations.] Your disturbance shows you have not read that letter, for it predicted our present difficultics.

A MEMBER. We are in no present difficulties.

GLAIS-BIZOIN. Our allies, I say, left us, because they would not violate a solemn promise not to interfere with the internal government of Mexico, and would not join France in exacting reimbursement of worthless credits of a banker whose name has become famous.

A MEMBER. They did not want to share in our glory.

BLAIS-BIZOIN. General Lorencez was ordered to advance, and the army was constantly increased by the accession of those Almonte and Ramirez traitors.

BARON BENOIST. You are aiding our enemies; you are firing upon our flag.

GLAIS-BIZOIN. Those traitors who are not ashamed of the infamy that hangs to those who turn against their country or join its enemies. When we are stopped at Puebla, the cry is: "The honor of France is at stake!" Then General Bazaine, now marshal, with 40,000 men, invades Mexico; a few towns are taken, and a vote is polled, when, lo! the name of Maximilian comes out of the urn; and against this unrighteous election the Mexicans have been protesting, with arms in their hands, for three long years, and with an earnestness I should like to have seen in those men who were called the brigands of the Loire in 1814.

Yes, the Mexicans are protesting against that sham election, and they are joined in their protest by that great nation called the United States. While acknowledging our right to make war to obtain due satisfaction, the govern ment at Washington reminds us of the convention, and says, "We allow that —— [loud exclamations.]

BARON BENOIST. We don't want the consent of the United States. We don't intend to cringe to them.

GLAIS-BIZOIN. The United States say to us, "We confess your right to demand satisfaction; but, as you would not be pleased to see us set up a republic on your borders, we are not pleased to see you set up a monarchy on ours, and compel us to keep a standing army, contrary to the spirit of our institutions." Nothing is more sorrowful than the last despatches of the minister of foreign affairs, who tries to destroy the effect of the imperial letter by resorting to all the cunning of diplomatic language, and to prove that we have not violated article two of the London convention, and that it is not the intention of France to keep Maximilian on his throne by force. But how are we to get out of the scrape? If we had a parliamentary government the issue would be very easy —— [disturbance in different places.]

BARON BENOIST. In that case we would make peace at all cost!

GLAIS-BIZOIN. If a ministry had advised that expedition, it would have been put down long ago by the indignation of the house and the people. [Pshaw! hush up!] They would have said to the government, "You have engaged France in the affair; now withdraw her and substitute your false pride and your false honor." [Noisy exclamations.]

But how are you to get out of it now? It is not my business; it is yours. [Ah! ah!] But I am willing to acknowledge the expedition as a blessing of Providence, whatever may be its consequences—war or peace—provided it serves as a warning lesson to my country, that has so soon forgotten the causes of ruin to the first empire—the result of a personal government; and if it will only remember in future that the greatest danger to a nation is to trust its destiny to the will of a single individual. [Exclamations.]

BELMONTEL. All France protests!

President WALEWSKI. You must perceive, Mr. Glais-Bizoin, that you wound the feelings of the house.

MANY VOICES. You are right; that is so.

JULES FAVRE. We did not meet here to compliment each other.

[From the Moniteur Universel, the official paper of the French empire—Paris, Saturday March 3, 1866, No. 62, page 241.]

Legislative chambers, session of Friday, March 2, 1866, Count Walewski presiding.

President WALEWSKI. I will read paragraph 3 of the address:

"Our Mexican expedition is drawing to a close, and the country is pleased with the prospect. Forced to undertake the expedition for the protection of our citizens against violence, and to demand satisfaction for real injuries, our soldiers and sailors have gallantly achieved the task. Your Majesty trusted to their devotion. This expedition is another proof of the power of France in distant countries. The people of the United States who have long known the loyalty of our policy, and have always had our sympathy, ought not to be offended at the appearance of our troops on Mexican soil. To recall them at the instance of the United States would be to yield our rights and tarnish our honor. You, sire, have the care of them, and the legislative assembly knows you will preserve them with a solicitude worthy of France and of your name."

The minister of state takes the floor:

ROUHER. The Mexican question is seen from two points of view—from France and the United States, and from France and Mexico, and they cannot be separated; if they could, then the Mexico-United States question could be easily discussed. All the despatches relating to it have been published, and everything is known; the house can soon form its opinion. As regards Mexico especially, the French government has sent communications to the government of Maximilian; but the great distance has not yet permitted a reply.

For that reason I mentioned in the pamphlet of diplomatic despatches distributed to the assembly that the Mexican correspondence would be published hereafter. It is not necessary for me then to dwell on the impossibility of publishing despatches that have not yet been received. [Good.]

It is the wish of the government then that the house do not take up the Mexican question at present; it will naturally come up in the course of the session. The government is as anxious as the house or the people are to take it up, but it wishes it to be done thoroughly and at a proper time. That time has not yet come, and I think the house will agree with me when I ask that the paragraph be adopted without debate.

MANY VOICES. Yes, yes! Put it to the vote.

PICARD. I ask permission to make a few remarks.

President WALEWSKI. Mr. Picard has the floor.

ERNEST PICARD. As the interest of the country is concerned in this question I will consent to the postponement of its discussion, and I hope the house will approve of it.

Perhaps the minister of state will think proper to fix a day for the discussion of the question as soon as the Mexican correspondence shall be received, before the debate on the appropriations. [Noise in several parts of the house.]

BELMONTET. The question may come up when the contingent expenses are discussed.

ERNEST PICARD. We presented an amendment; another was offered by the majority.

President WALEWSKI. It has been withdrawn.

ERNEST PICARD. Our amendment is in order; we maintain it, but are willing to defer the discussion.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. It cannot be! The address must be put to the vote.

President WALEWSKI. I do not understand Mr. Picard. The amendment is either maintained or withdrawn; if it is maintained, it must be discussed and put to vote.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. This is right and logical.

President WALEWSKI. You cannot defer an amendment to the address, when it is to be voted on finally. [That is evident.] You must do one of two things; either withdraw the amendment or let it be discussed; take your choice.

ERNEST PICARD. The president will permit me to say that he has not properly stated the question. I do not think it becomes the dignity of the house to settle the great Mexican question definitely, as the president proposes, without discussing it. The paragraph of the address therefore ought to be expunged. [No, no!] I insist that it be expunged, as it does not express the voice of the house; and I cannot believe it will retain an opinion on the most serious of all the questions in the address, without a profound discussion of its merits.

President WALEWSKI. You mean then that you want your amendment debated.

ERNEST PICARD. Allow me to explain. It is evident that both the house and the government wish the address to express the truth of facts, and as this cannot be reached, the discussion should be deferred; and if we retained the paragraph in the address, without its discussion, we would not be understood abroad.

President WALEWSKI. Then you will vote against the paragraph.

ERNEST PICARD. Certainly we will vote against the paragraph; but we cannot withdraw our amendment. And, as I said at first, we will not insist on its discussion now if it is against the interest of the country, as they tell us.

President WALEWSKI. You do not withdraw your amendment, therefore I must propose its discussion.

ERNEST PICARD. It must be referred to the committee.

SEGRIS. I ask to be heard on the question.

President WALEWSKI. You may speak.

SEGRIS. I have but a single remark to make. This question, gentlemen, seems to me of the greatest moment. Our discussions are heard by all of Europe. Well, what is the present situation? We have just been told that "the Mexican question is in such a condition that its discussion at this time would be seriously improper; that despatches have been sent, but it is not known if they reached their destination. To discuss that question now would only cause confusion and perhaps render its solution more difficult. We request, therefore, that the discussion be deferred, to be taken up at a later day, either before the discussion of the budget or at that time." That is what the minister of state said in the name of the government. Now I ask him how he can reconcile a proposal so just and reasonable with an immediate vote upon a paragraph to which two amendments have been proposed, and which is of such great importance. If all wish the discussion to be deferred—— [Interposition.]

President WALEWSKI. You don't wish the paragraph to be voted on then?

SEGRIS. Excuse me, Mr. President. I would like an explanation from the orators of the government. I believe the minister of state intended simply to say: As this question cannot be properly discussed at present, it had better be postponed, and I therefore propose its postponement. Now I ask you, is voting on the paragraph equivalent to postponing it?

MANY VOICES. Refer it to the committee.

ROUHER, minister of state. Gentlemen, I do not deny the impropriety of voting upon a question without previous discussion. It is the usual custom in legislative assemblies to discuss every question thoroughly before it is put to the vote; but this is no common question, and a vote on the address will not prevent a full discussion, at a proper time, of all questions relating to Mexico.

A MEMBER. We must have an opinion, or we cannot vote.

President WALEWSKI. No interruption!

THE MINISTER OF STATE. In questions of this kind explanations interchanged between the government and the house are the safeguard and dignity of each. Now, what do we say to the house? A debate on the policy of the government

towards Mexico, and on its recent proposals to the government of the emperor Maximilian, not yet heard from, seems to me to be entirely premature.

We ask the house to postpone it; and, to facilitate its complete development, the government will submit the despatches since the last session, not in the Yellow Book, to the consideration of the legislative assembly.

But the discourse of the Throne has expressed a thought that the expedition was drawing to a close; and that thought is common to the government and the legislative assembly. In fact, it is the thought of public opinion, and so it is expressed in the address.

Under these circumstance, where is the inexpediency of the expression of opinion by the legislative assembly? As to its result, and its connection with affairs of the United States, let those questions be discussed hereafter. Leave no blank at present in the address that you are going to present to the Crown; but let it be understood by everybody interested in our debates that our respective sentiments are reserved, and that the dignity of no person is compromised. [Good! Let the vote be taken.]

Ernest Picard. One word, if you please, Mr. President. [The vote! the vote!]

Buffet. I would like to ask the minister of state a simple question. He has just told you that it is improper to discuss the Mexican question at this time, because all the documents are not yet on hand. Now, I wish to ask him if a collective opinion can be formed upon it in the house when it does come up, so as to incorporate it with the address. If there is any likelihood of that, then I have no objection to vote on it now.

Rouher, minister of state. The answer to the gentleman's question is easy. The Mexican question will be thoroughly discussed in due time; that is, when the budget for 1866 is brought up. It can then be analyzed and presented to the house; and, as acts of the government are more properly investigated at that time, the house can then give a final opinion.

What we most need is information, truth, and harmony between the great powers, and the government will do all it can to attain this, and thereby promote public interest and prosperity. [Good! good! Let us take the vote.]

Ernest Picard. I hope a proposition will not be voted on till it is maturely considered. This resolution is twofold. First. How is it to be considered hereafter? Second. It is a question that belongs solely to the house, and not to the minister of state and his colleagues. According to the constitution and the rules of the house there is but one time when we can discuss it, and that is during the debate on the address, and there will be no time when we can discuss it as fully as now. If the house wishes to put the question to a vote, it has only to say so. [Vote! vote!]

President Walewski. Do you withdraw your amendment?

Ernest Picard and other members. No, no!

President Walewski. I will now put to the vote the amendment proposed by Bethmont, Garnier-Pages, Jules Favre, Pelletan, Duke Marmier, Picard, Glais-Bizoin, Javal, and others. Here is the amendment:

"We condemned the Mexican expedition from its beginning on account of the difficulties and sacrifices it would cause France.

"The return of our soldiers was solemnly announced last year, and we regret it has been delayed to the detriment of French interests.

"The country has not forgotten the first declarations of the government concerning the causes of the expedition, and it wonders to see our army still sacrificed to the defence of a foreign throne."

The amendment was put to the vote and rejected by a large majority.

The President. I will now put paragraph 3, which has been read, to the vote. [Vote! vote!]

Paragraph 3 is put to vote and adopted.

President WALEWSKI. I now propose to the house that the remainder of the discussion be postponed till to-morrow. [Yes, Yes!]

At ten o'clock to-morrow the discussion of the address will be resumed.

House adjourned at quarter past five.

CELESTIN LAGACHE,
Stenographic Revisor and Director of Short-hand Corps.

No. 2.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 5, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 20th of March last, containing some extracts from the "Moniteur Universel," and to thank you for the information conveyed by them.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don M. ROMERO, *&c.*, *&c.*, *&c.*

No. 3.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *April* 2, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to enclose you an extract, in English, from a letter which I received from Paris to-day, dated the 19th of March last, in which I am informed that three thousand two hundred men, and among them four hundred hussars, left Algiers, Brest, and Cherbourg, recently for Mexico.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your very obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c.*, *&c*, *&c.*

PARIS, *March* 19, 1866.

MY DEAR FRIEND: * * * * * * * * *
* * * * * * * * * *

The principal object of these lines is to let you know that three thousand two hundred men left here a week ago for Vera Cruz with the greatest secrecy. Among them are four hundred hussars of Algiers, Brest, and Cherbourg. The press has not mentioned anything about it, nor do they dare to speak at all about the Mexican question, because they have been warned not to do so.

The disagreement between Congress and President Johnson is regarded here with almost open joy, and it is very likely strong efforts will be made to increase the same if it can be done by any act of France.

* * * * * * * * *

A telegraphic despatch from Vienna published here day before yesterday in-

forms us that an agreement has been concluded with Maximilian for the purpose of sending him two thousand Austrians to fill up the losses of the Austrian contingent in Mexico. The necessary expenses will of course be defrayed by the French government.

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Señor Don MATIAS ROMERO.

WASHINGTON, *Abril* 2, *de* 1866.

A true copy.

IGNO. MARISCAL.

No. 4.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero..

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 5, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 2d of April last, enclosing a letter addressed to you from Paris, which contains information of the recent departure from Algiers, Brest, and Cherbourg of certain troops for Mexico.

Please accept my thanks for your information. I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 5.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, April 14, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit you a copy of a letter of the 5th of March last, from the city of Mexico, lately received in this country, giving an impartial account of recent events in that city. I also enclose an article, in English, from La Sombra, a paper published in the city of Mexico, showing, from data published in the interventionist papers, that there has been almost a battle between the Mexicans and French who are trying to conquer the country almost every day since the arrival of the usurper, Ferdinand Maximilian of Hapsburg, in Mexico.

Together with the above I send an extraordinary document, just published in the city of Mexico, showing that the usurper has made an agreement with the family of Augustin Iturbide that they shall leave Mexico forever, for pecuniary considerations; and that a son of Don Angel de Iturbide shall be separated from his parents, and Ferdinand Maximilian shall be his curator. All the efforts of the distressed mother to regain her child have hitherto been fruitless.

I embrace the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

MEXICO, *March 5*, 1866.

I have waited till the last hour, so as to give you the true situation of this empire and its future prospects.

I will be as brief as possible, but I will not confine myself to the doubts and conjectures in regard to the absolute and relative position of Maximilian, the French, and the Mexicans implicated in the intervention, for opinions were divided here as soon as Napoleon's speech on the Mexican question was known. Some said the speech of the Crown, in regard to this country, was a repetition of the vague promises with which the Emperor had entertained his people, who were anxious for the return of the expeditionary army; while others interpreted its words to signify a speedy withdrawal. Some thought Maximilian would retire from the country with the baggage of the French army; others believed he would stay in Mexico, supported by the faction that put him into power, and virtually sustained by France, and both cited authorities to sustain their opinions. Some referred to the activity of the invading army that seemed to be making no preparations to retire, but was daily receiving reinforcements to fill vacancies in different corps; others noticed the concentration of the interventionists and the indiscretion of some chiefs, who said they were to return to France before long. As to Maximilian, what is said about his going or remaining is to depend on his visit to Cuernavaca, or his confidence in continuing the works at Chepultepec and Palacio, and the various preparations that are made for the industrial expedition which is to take place in a few months. The pendulum has not ceased to vibrate, but yesterday something happened to give a new phase to the empire created by intervention. It was said that Baron Saillard was sent here by Napoleon to make preparatory arrangements for the speedy withdrawal of the French troops from Mexico. He remained but a few days, and after his return to France certain events transpired here, inducing us to believe that such was his business here. Ever since Maximilian arrived in Mexico, the little rest that adulators at Chepultepec have given him, and the small time he has had to spare from the devotions of lent, very pompous at the palace, he has employed in reorganizing the cabinet and in making many personal changes in his administration, denoting a formal change of policy. This change is hardly to be seen in the character of officials appointed, for in selecting them he has chosen men submissive to foreign policy. But that is not all, and here are echoes of indiscreet whispers from the palace: The French will leave sooner or later, but France will not give up the firm hold she has of Mexico at such a sacrifice. Maximilian will remain, protected by Napoleon and the great interventionist party that will be organized and armed before the French leave. It is evident the pure liberals will not easily assimilate with the empire. The seducing recruiting policy has shown this. It will then be necessary to face about until the refractory are conciliated. The policy of toleration yields no fruit; some other must be substituted. Maximilian must bring about a reaction more powerful than the one which sustained Santa Anna and Miramon, and he must have the moral support of France, and perhaps of all Europe. The tariff must be reformed, and his revenue schemes must be more strictly enforced. In fact, this policy has already been commenced by the following measures: A censor of the press has been appointed, with instructions to suppress the scandal caused by the liberal papers in discussing the present order of things. This office is given to Licenciado Hidalgo y Teran, an individual who made his fortune, as you know, under the patronage of Sagaceta, and nursed by the ecclesiastical court.

The independent press will receive some hard blows before this week is gone. The departments have been reduced to four; and when Ramirez, Peza, and Esteva go out, Salazar Ilarregui will come in as minister of government, and

Somera as minister of the interior. Those going out will be paid with crosses or foreign missions. Escudero is watching his famous law of public administration, and Castillo, who stooped to be the agent of Napoleon, continues in the department of foreign relations. Other changes in the administration amount to nineteen up to this time. General Mendoza has resigned his place as political prefect of the valley of Mexico. To tell the truth, Maximilian makes these changes reluctantly, and only does so to oblige his patrons who forced him into the way; they now force him to quit. Maximilian has French agents in his household who are also partizans of this reaction. They try to frighten him with resolutions passed in the Congress of the United States, and Mr. Seward's notes. Such are the facts; now we must discover their origin and their importance. Does Napoleon really believe that the interventionist party can sustain the throne it has set up in Mexico? or is he only keeping it up till he can get his forces out of the country? If the reactionary elements be organized and supported by aid from France, can they prevent the restoration of national power? These are questions that you can answer, perhaps, better than us. As you are better acquainted with the acts of diplomacy you may be able to interpret Napoleon's speech, and tell us whether the intervention will be sustained or not, openly or covertly, by European powers. Fortune continues adverse to intervention, and has lately increased the embarrassment of the empire by two very important events. Mr. Langlais, the financial savior of the empire, suddenly died. His great plans for collecting the revenue from the sea-ports had just begun to be put into operation. For all they say that Mr. Maintenon, the present secretary of the treasury, has carried out his predecessor's plans, no one denies that his death is very embarrassing to the government. He had complete knowledge of affairs, and full power to act in every emergency. His labor was to solve the question of resources, which you know is the critical question for intervention. In this particular things have come to such a pass that they say the confiscated property, not yet secured to the state, is to be made use of; and they say the desperate idea has been postponed from Maximilian's repugnance to make use of it. The other event I alluded to is the defeat of Mendez, the imperial chief in Michoacan. The malcontents, so often scattered and annihilated, collected four thousand men, and made a stand in the plain of Uruapan. Mendez, the assassin of Arteaga and Salazar, tried to avoid battle, but was surrounded by two columns of cavalry, and, to save his life, had to leave his soldiers, his artillery, and even his baggage on the field. The moral effect of this occurrence was terrible in Mexico and in Morelia. All the forces remaining in Michoacan were concentrated in the latter city for fear of an attack, and the Mexican press, after a timid silence, published the news with the customary palliations. But as the imperialist chief permitted himself to get whipped just as the English packet was going out, it was necessary to invent a falsehood, and it was accordingly reported there had been no disaster; only a scare had been felt in Michoacan, and Mendez had gained a victory and taken many prisoners. Some of the papers, however, added that the victory had been purchased very dearly, the imperial forces were much weakened, and reenforcements were immediately needed in Michoacan. Re enforcements were actually sent, but Mendez was recalled on account of the untruthfulness of his reports to Marshal Bazaine. It seems he had captured three hundred patriots after his defeat, and called it a victory.

Recent news from New Leon and Coahuila say the insurrection is entirely suppressed in those States. The situation of the imperial troops in Tamaulipas is very critical. Tampico is in continual alarm. The small garrison of that port is acting on the defensive. The liberals are organizing and increasing under General Garza, who has his headquarters in Victoria.

Mazatlan is in a more desperate situation than Tampico. Coronas's forces have lately been very near the town, contemplating an assault. The State of Tlascala is already within the insurrectionary zone. A force of three hundred men lately surprised the small garrison of the capital and took Ormachea, the

military commander, prisoner. The alarm consequent upon this event reached Puebla, only seven leagues from Tlascala.

If the pacification of the country goes on in that manner, how long will it be before a few traitors and a handful of mercenary Austrians will be enough to defend the empire?

[Enclosure No. 2.]

Secret treaty made between his majesty and the son of the liberator, D. Augustin Iturbide.

His majesty, the emperor, wishing to honor the memory of the liberator, D. Augustin Iturbide, in consequence of the first right he had to the gratitude of the nation, and his sons desiring to further the noble object of his majesty, by the order of the emperor, the minister of foreign affairs, M. F. Ramirez, and charged with the ministry of state, and Mr. Augustin, Mr. Angel, and Mr. Cosme, and Miss Josephina Iturbide, arranged together the following:

1. His majesty will give a high position to the two grandsons of the emperor, D. Augustin y D. Salvador, as well as to his daughter, Dona Josephine Iturbide.

2. Their majesties will provide the means for the education of the grandsons of the emperor Augustin, suited to their rank, as well as also their maintenance and that of Dona Josephine Iturbide.

3. As a mark of special protection, his majesty wishes to constitute himself their tutor and guardian, and to name Dona Josephine co-tutrix.

4. D. Augustin, Angel, and Augustin Cosme Iturbide promise in their names, as well as in the name of Dona Sabina and their legitimate descendants, never to return to the empire, without previous authorization from the sovereign or the regency.

5. The government of his majesty would pay from the treasury of the state to D. Augustin, Angel, Augustin Cosme, Dona Josephine, and Dona Sabina Iturbide, the sum of $30,000 down, and $120,000 in drafts on Paris, payable, $60,000 the 15th of December, of the present year, and $60,000 the 15th of February, 1866—making a total of $150,000 on account of what is due them by the nation.

6. The government assures and it is responsible for the accounts of the family of the liberator, Iturbide.

7. The government of his majesty will give proper orders to secure all pensions to D. Augustin, Angel, Augustin Cosme, Dona Josephine, and Dona Sabina Iturbide which they now enjoy. These pensions will be paid punctually and without discount at their place of residence, or the nearest place to it having commercial relations with Mexico.

8. The government of his majesty concedes to D. Augustin, Angel, Augustin Cosme, and Dona Sabina Iturbide an income of $6,000 to the first, $5,100 to the second—that income going to the wife of D. Angel in case of his death—and $1,524 to the two others. Orders will be given for the prompt payment of these sums, and in accordance with the preceding article fixing the pensions.

In faith of which the present treaty has been signed in duplicate at the imperial residence of Chepultepec, the 9th of September, 1865.

By order of his imperial majesty:

JOSÉ F. RAMIREZ,
Minister of Foreign Affairs, charged with the Ministry of State.
ANGEL DE ITUBIDE,
JOSEFA DE ITURBIDE,
A. DE ITURBIDE,
AUGUS. C. DE ITURBIDE
ALICIA G DE ITURBIDE.

No. 6.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 5, 1866.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 14th of April last, containing copy of a letter addressed to you from the city of Mexico, with reference to the recent events in that city; also some other interesting information, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 7.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *April* 15, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to send you a copy, in English, of a letter from one of the principal commercial houses in Vera Cruz, dated the 31st of May last, showing how arbitrarily the French intervention treat the merchants of good faith in that port, imposing unjust taxes upon them, which will certainly ruin many of them.

This is only one of the examples of the pretended blessings brought on Mexico by French intervention, blessings that weigh heavily upon those who have the misfortune to live in a country with such a government.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure.]

VERA CRUZ, *March* 31, 1866.

For some time a very serious question has been pending between the commercial houses of this city engaged in the foreign trade and the government of Maximilian. By the decree of the latter of the 10th of February ultimo, an additional duty of thirty per cent. was added to the tariff then in force. The commerce of this port claimed, and with reason, that this could not apply to merchandise in store which had been imported months, and some of it even years, before the publication of the decree. That the very fact that such merchandise was on hand and had been kept so long was a proof that it was in little demand, and would probably have to be sold at a loss, and that now to force it to pay an additional duty, not contemplated or known at the time of its importation, would be to involve in ruin many of the merchants, and to expose them to losses as unjust as injurious.

It was also urged that such a measure was in violation of the organic law of the empire, which established the principle that no law ever should have retroactive force.

For these reasons the question has been a very grave one between the commercial houses and M. Rollau, (a French subject,) the director of the custom-house of the Gulf. But Maximilian, at the petition of the latter, and overriding the express provisions of the organic law, has ordered not only that the merchants must pay this additional percentage of duty upon their effects now on hand and previously imported, but that if they do not deliver a full account of all merchandise on hand within the term of three days, they shall be obliged to pay sixty per cent. additional duty in place of the thirty per cent. fixed by the decree of the 10th of February.

It therefore follows that not only are dispositions established that are contrary to all the principles of justice recognized throughout the world, but suddenly and on the moment there are established, and, even in cases of doubtful interpretation, new systems of penalties, under an arbitrary legislation heretofore unknown.

These are entirely new occurrences for this country, and have caused a profound sensation throughout the commercial community. The tariff has been suddenly raised or lowered before, and merchants have been exposed sometimes to serious losses, and at other times have gained upon their stocks on hand. They have never been before exposed, in addition, to *retroactive* laws and the imposition of penalties as new and unexampled as they are arbitrary and unjust. What, however, makes this case more remarkable is, that it is a matter of public notoriety that not only the minister of treasury, but Maximilian also, recognize and admit the justice of the position taken by the commercial houses of this port, the principal of this country, and pronounce the measure an iniquitous one; but their fear of Napoleon is such that they are unwilling to go contrary to any measure decided upon by M. Langlais, the financial agent whom he sent here, and who has proceeded as if he were directing a department in France.

The principle, however, that this action has established is a most dangerous one, and has thrown commercial affairs here into the greatest uncertainty. No merchant now knows what to calculate upon or what to expect, and the belief is that this measure is only the beginning of a course of similar exactions designed to meet the extraordinary necessities caused by the pecuniary embarrassments of Maximilian's government. The ordinary revenue from all sources is not sufficient to meet even the half the present expenditures, and the fear is that, as a matter of necessity, resort will be had to every possible means of extorting funds wherever they can be found. As the only class that has available means is the commercial community, it follows that upon this class these exactions are likely almost exclusively to fall. How it will be possible to continue importations under these circumstances it is not easy to see.

The English minister, it is said, has already interfered in the matter, but there is little hope of anything being done so long as the pecuniary necessities of the situation are so great and the French continue to treat this country as the Spaniards did, only as a place to take dollars from, and at the cost of whatever sacrifice of its present commerce or future interest.

WASHINGTON, *Abril* 15, A. D. 1866.

A true copy.

IGNO. MARISCAL.

No. 8.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 5, 1866.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 15th of April last, containing a copy of a letter from a commercial house in Vera Cruz on the subject of taxes, for which please accept my thanks.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 9.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

WASHINGTON, *May* 9, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: The documents accompanying your report to the President of the 21st ultimo, submitted by him to Congress, in regard to the promised evacuation of Mexico by the French forces, and specially your very able letter to M. Montholon dated February 12, 1866, in answer to the arguments and assertions of M. Drouyn de Lhuys, seemed to me so important that I caused great many of those papers to be carefully translated into Spanish in my legation, (your letter of February 12 being translated in full,) and a large edition of them printed for the purpose of circulating them widely at home, where they will produce, I have no doubt, great deal of good.

I take now the liberty of sending to you five hundred copies of the Spanish edition of said papers, which number, I suppose, will be sufficient should you be willing to circulate them among the legations, consulates, and consular offices of the United States in the Spanish American republics, where, I am sure, they will be read with the greatest interest.

The papers are headed by a circular of mine, addressed to the Mexicans, giving them my views on the correspondence.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Translation.—Circular No. 7.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, April 26, 1866.

I have the honor to transmit to you, for your information, a Spanish translation of the principal documents sent to the 39th Congress by the President of the United States with his message of the 23d instant, at the request of the House of Representatives, relative to the withdrawal of the French soldiers from the territory of the republic. The importance of these documents cannot but be evident to every citizen who is defending the independence of his country.

While the Mexican people were struggling heroically against the colossal power of the first military nation of Europe, our sister republic of the United States ended its civil war, the cause of our invasion, and was free to use its good offices, or force if necessary, in putting a stop to the arbitrary conduct of the Emperor Napoleon, who has undertaken the impossible task of overturning

the government that the nation elected freely, and establishing a European monarchy in its place, with an Austrian prince at its head.

Without soliciting directly or indirectly the good offices or mediation of the United States with France, and without entering into any engagement with either nation, the North American government has succeeded in persuading the Emperor Napoleon to promise to withdraw his forces from our territory, and to fix a time for the fulfilment of that promise.

This is equivalent to persuading the French Emperor to give up the pretended government he has established in the ancient capital of the republic, for every one knows that if the Emperor Napoleon could not consolidate his pretended government with four years of savage war, when he could send what forces he pleased to the republic without fear of the United States, and keep them there forever, he certainly cannot do it now, when he has bound himself not to send any more troops, but take away those he has there now, particularly when the civil war in the United States is over, and that nation is restored as a first-class power, capable of frustrating the plans that the ignorance and ambition of European despots conceived for the oppression of this continent.

The government of the United States has moreover assumed a position towards Austria, as may be seen in the correspondence, preventing that country from sending out mercenaries to support the cause of despotism and European usurpation on Mexican soil.

Though the time fixed by the Emperor Napoleon for withdrawing his soldiers from Mexico seems long, if he acts on this occasion in good faith, I have no doubt he will shorten it, as this will be greatly to his interest. If, on the contrary, he does not keep his word with the United States, his situation will only become more dangerous.

The government of the United States has clearly shown, in its correspondence with France, that it is not so much dissatisfied with the conduct of France in Mexico, making war on the republic and keeping an army there, as it is with the fact that France is trying to overthrow the present national government, and establish a European monarchy by force of arms. For this reason, the United States will not be satisfied with the withdrawal of the French army from Mexico, if it does not carry away with it the pretended monarchy it attempted to establish in that country.

The publication of this correspondence shows the end of French intervention, and its infamous acts in the republic. This result is chiefly due to the noble and persistent stand of the Mexican people for four years, enduring every hardship, sacrifice and privation in defence of the nation's honor and independence.

I communicate these important events to you, because they mark a new era in the history of our country, and I congratulate you on the prospect of a speedy termination of a wicked war waged upon us by the tyrant of France.

I repeat to you the assurance of my distinguished consideration,

M. ROMERO.

To the citizen ———.

No. 10.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, May 18, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, some extracts from a pamphlet entitled "The Foreign Question," which was published on the 31st of December last,

in the town of Paso del Norte, the present seat of the national government of Mexico.

It contains a short and correct account of political occurrences in the Mexican republic during the months of October, November, and December, 1865.

I am pleased with this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

THE FOREIGN QUESTION.

New changes brought about by the removal of the national government to Chihuahua, and its subsequent return to this city, have disturbed the regular order of our reviews, and compel us to condense the events of the last three months, ending this day, into one single article. * * *

We will begin with a notice of the imprisonments by the empire in August last, on account of a suspected conspiracy in the capital, garrisoned by a considerable French force. The persons arrested were liberals residing in the city, who were soon released without an explanation of the arbitrary acts committed against them. If there had been the slightest proof of conspiracy, the captives would have been executed immediately, as clemency is not one of the virtues of the present ruler of Mexico. Supposing it only a scare, we cannot conceive why the invaders were so frightened, or why persons were arrested, unless it were a causeless act of tyranny so common to our present civilizers. It seems the order was issued by Marshal Bazaine, without the assent of Maximilian, who was on a visit to the mines of Pachuca at the time; for he always leaves the capital for a short time whenever he has a disagreement with the French general; and the visit like to have cost him very dearly, for he was near being caught by a guerilla band, and had to retreat to the city in the greatest haste. Now, as we are on the subject of despotism, we will give the case of Manuel Lozano, of Aguas Calientes, who was assassinated upon the report of a bandit, who swore he was in league with the republicans. There was no evidence to condemn the unfortunate man, but he was murdered in cold blood by officers of the intervention. This horrid crime remained unrevenged, though it was denounced by the newspapers of the imperial capital, and chastisement of the guilty was demanded.

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Besides a speech, Maximilian celebrated the anniversary of national independence by a decree, declaring the grandsons of Iturbide, children of his son Angel and a North American woman, princes of the empire. It was also said he intended to make them his successors, but he did not do it. We can't imagine why he skipped the living children of the unfortunate hero of Iguala, and passed to the grandchildren, when the former had the greatest right to titles. This fact is very insignificant in itself. The usurper may make as many princes, dukes, counts, and marquises as he pleases, as all these high sounding titles will only serve for ridicule, as he will never be able to establish a real aristocracy for his imperial farce. * * * * * *

General Porfirio Diaz managed to escape from his prison, in Puebla, on the 22d of September. The event gave great alarm to the imperialists, as they knew the harm he could do them if he could raise another army for the republican cause. We will see how he served his country as soon as he was at liberty. He went immediately into the State of Guerrero, put himself at the head of a republican force, and attacked a band of traitors, which was completely routed, with considerable loss. After this, he consulted with General Alvarez about a new campaign in Guerrero and Oaxaca, which was subsequently carried out. Events will soon realize the hopes entertained of the patriotism of General Diaz.

A proclamation and a decree were issued in October, in the capital of the Mexican empire, destined to occupy a prominent place in the history of the intervention struggle. The proclamation of the usurper says that the cause defended with so much valor and constancy by Benito Juarez has lost all political character, because the ex-President of the republic has quit the national territory, and his robber bands must be treated with the greatest severity.

This assertion was preceded by a note from General Brincourt, stating it as a fact that President Juarez had actually left the Mexican territory, and without waiting to investigate the case, Maximilian proclaimed it as true, and made it the foundation of his tyrannical decrees. Logically speaking, when the falsehood of Brincourt's assertion was ascertained, the cause for the decree was removed and it fell to the ground. But logic is sacrificed in this case, and Maximilian is held up to ridicule.

So much importance was given to the supposed desertion of the republic by President Juarez, that the imperial organs gave it over as the end of the contest. As soon as Brincourt's occupation of Chihuahua was known in the capital, Marshal Bazaine hastened to telegraph the news to Vera Cruz, where a vessel was prepared to convey it without delay to Napoleon, as if it were a decided fact. They did not consider that it was only the abandonment of a single city, whose possession by the French would be of very little importance; but, in accordance with their system of exaggeration, a second-rate affair was made a first-rate success, and to give it greater interest, they told of the capture of some pieces of artillery, not taken in battle, but left for want of transportation, after having been spiked. In the same strain they called the orderly retreat of the republican government, a hasty flight, and concluded by saying the President had left the country, and thus the troubles were over.

This is a case of very great importance, and the mistake was serious, even allowing the allegations to have been true. However injurious the exit of the supreme magistrate to the national cause, it could not be ruinous; were he even to die, though the nation would miss him much, the national cause would not be irretrievably injured, because it was formed to outlive the most eminent men who die in its defence. The argument, therefore, employed by the usurper in his celebrated proclamation, taken in the most favorable sense, amounts to an absurdity.

If its reasoning can thus be so easily refuted, the decree is still subject to greater blame for its infraction of every principle of humanity; and the interventionists have reached the highest grade of eternal infamy in adopting its principles. As early as the 20th of June, 1863, General Forey created the execrable French courts-martial, whose records are now saturated with the nation's blood. After Maximilian's return from his journey into the country, he issued a circular ordering all captured guerrilleros to be hanged, and not satisfied with the many sanguinary executions already consumated, he perfected his infernal work by issuing the decree of the 3d of October, and in this his ministers have become his accomplices, for their signatures are appended to the document, ordering the most horrid crime against humanity, a crime that Draco himself would not have dared to sanction. Its articles are marked with the seal of genuine ferocity; every one belonging to an armed force of any number, kind, order, or organization, character or denomination, shall be condemned to death by a court-martial and executed within twenty-four hours, without appeal or recourse of any kind; and every one who shall aid or abet the republicans in any manner whatever, give them notice or warning, furnish them with any munitions of war, have any intercourse with them, or conceal them, or propagate false or alarming rumors, or reports, shall be subject to the penalties of imprisonment, banishment, or fine, according to the gravity of the offence. All owners or managers of plantations are required to notify the imperial authorities of the enemies' movements, under the penalty of a heavy fine in case of

neglect to do so. This order is extended to town authorities; and all male citizens between eighteen and fifty-five, who do not take up arms in defence of the empire are subject to similar penalties. All the other dispositions of the said decree are of the same tenor, thus placing the whole community in a state of seige, declaring all criminals who are not zealous partisans of the new order of things.

To show the determination to enforce this decree with the greatest possible rigor, I will cite a recent occurrence of the greatest importance. On the 13th of October a division, commanded by José Maria Arteaga, was defeated at Santa Ana Amatlan, and he was taken prisoner, with General Carlos Salazar and several other chiefs and officers. Don Ramon Mendez, the imperial conqueror, who was made brigadier general for that feat, did not dare to enforce the precepts of the sanguinary law upon his distinguished prisoners, and sent to Mexico to know what was to be done with them. He was answered by the usurper's minister of war, as well as by Marshal Bazaine, that the decree should be strictly enforced. So Generals Arteaga and Salazar, Colonels Diaz Paracho and Villa Gomez, Padre Mina, and we know not how many more, were shot in Uruapam according to supreme orders. We presume these atrocious assassinations have been continued, as we have recently heard of the petition of the ladies of Pazcuaro to spare the lives of one hundred and fifty prisoners. Everything has conspired to render this barbarous act most conspicuous in its hideous deformity. Mendez's prisoners belonged to no guerilla band; they were not obscure individuals; they had been guilty of no misdemeanors, and were blameless in their conduct; but they belonged to the regular army, organized in due form; they occupied high positions in military rank; one was commanding general of the division; all were known as gentlemen; their officers had been lenient with French, Austrian, and Belgian prisoners; and even the Express newspaper, on hearing of Arteaga's capture, pronounced a merited eulogy on his conduct. But all that did not save them from the gallows; they were led out and shot like malefactors.

Acts of this kind—an eternal stigma of infamy upon its authors—far from doing honor to their cause, will ruin it and cover it with disgrace. These extreme measures prove the desperation of their cause, and it certainly cannot succeed by these means. The wanton shedding of blood, even in wars, in all ages and in every part of the world, has only served for the destruction of the sanguinary cause. The execution of those meritorious patriots in Uruapam will serve as a stimulus to the nation to arouse itself against its butchers and avenge the memory of its worthy children.

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Soon after the promulgation of the decree to which we have alluded, there was a misunderstanding among the ministers who had signed it. Fernando Ramirez was transferred from the department of foreign relations to the department of state, and Velazquez de Leon, its incumbent, was left without a portfolio. Martin del Castillo was put into Ramirez's place, to the great surprise of everybody, as he was only under secretary of the treasury and manager of the imperial household. Manuel Siliceo was dismissed from the department of public instruction and worship, and Francisco Artigas, a young lawyer of no note, was put in his place.

The mystery of these changes remains unrevealed. Why did Ramirez leave his position and not quit the cabinet? Why was Siliceo dismissed from the cabinet when he had just deeply compromised himself by signing the sanguinary decree of the 3d of October? If this ministerial modification means a change of policy, it is very hard to comprehend it. The truth is, Maximilian must be much in want of capable men for his cabinet, when he has to fill it with persons unknown or entirely disqualified for such distinguished positions.

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Interested persons have represented Maximilian as a great reformer on account of the enactment of some organic laws promulgated last November. Those I have seen are very far from deserving praise. One relates to the departments and the duties of their heads, but it is common. Another concerns the modification of a former decree, fixing the order of precedence among the imperial dignitaries, and it is simply ridiculous. The organization of the judiciary department is merely a copy of the law signed by Teodosio Lares at the time Santa Anna entitled himself serene highness, and inaugurated the absured system of a monarchical farce in Mexico. If there are other laws worthy of eulogy in any way we have not heard of them, and even if they do exist they are not national, because they do not proceed from the proper authority.

But the most important part of the administrative functions is the direction of the treasury department. This has been organized by Francisco P. de Cesar, the present under secretary. According to his report the sum and substance of his efforts, in a financial way, consist in doubling the present taxation. It certainly requires no fiscal genius to do this. If this system can be carried out, the directors of the Mexican imperial treasury may boast of having solved all pecuniary difficulties. If doubling the rates of taxation will not do, they can triple or quadruple them, going on in geometrical progression until there be no deficit in government expenses.

The calculation of this estimate is very easy on paper; but in practice, we judge there will be inseparable difficulties. War is a great obstacle to the collection of taxes at present; but when all private fortunes are exhausted by its continuation, how is any government to subsist? It will require long years of peace to enable the country to support a monarchy, such as the present one.

The financial situation is becoming so complicated, that it can never be untangled. The yearly estimate amounts to fifty-seven millions of dollars, eighteen millions of which go to the support of the army, and the thirty-nine remaining to the civil government. Our reasoning becomes more forcible as these expenses increase; and this is the government that was to be as panacea to all our ills! Any one acquainted with our country can see how absurd it is to think that such a sum can be collected. We laugh at the new financier sent to Mexico by Napoleon to make these ridiculous calculations. Mr. Langlais has asserted that it is very easy to make Mexico yield two hundred millions of dollars! When we see foreign financiers, entirely ignorant of our country, solve complicated questions in four words, we are tempted to exclaim: "Pardon them, O Lord, for they know not what they say!"

The present condition of the finances is gloomy: rentes and foreign loans have already been absorbed by the government expenses. The revenues of the States have also been used up, since the central system was substituted for the federative. The funds have been used to support a court of foreigners, that squanders money in great profusion. Horses, balls, excursions, shows, banquets, alms, servants and dress cost millions. Four millions' pay to the Austrian soldiers is aside from all this. Such extravagance will certainly bankrupt the country and put an end to the imperial farce. * * *

In fact, everything conspires to make the situation more grievous, the few victories of the imperial arms not excepted. The advantage has mostly been on our side, even when the imperialists triumphed, for nobody can believe in its ultimate success in this prolonged struggle. For military operations in this vast country the imperial government depends upon the French expeditionary corps, the foreign legion and Mexican soldiers armed by the invaders. A rapid view of these three elements will demonstrate the impossibility of executing the work proposed.

We cannot say exactly what is the number of men in the French expeditionary corps; but at the time the question was debated in the legislative assembly, it consisted of 28,000 men. According to another report, it consisted

of twenty-one battalions of infantry, thirteen squadrons of cavalry, eight batteries of artillery, and a company of sappers. Although recruits have continued to come from France for the last few months for the army in Mexico, the force has not been increased, as they had to take the place of discharged soldiers. One of the ways Napoleon thought of to increase his Mexican troops, was to hire 1,000 soldiers from the viceroy of Egypt to serve in portions of the country unhealthy to Europeans. One of the dangers of employing these troops is, they may bring the cholera into the country. This plan was protested against by Mr. Seward, in a note to the French government, and it was discontinued, and the idea abandoned.

From the most reliable information, the foreign legion consists of 12,900 men. Its losses are greater than those of the French troops, because it has taken part in almost all the important combats, with disastrous results, and has been sent to sickly regions where many died. Many of the Austrians sent to pacify Yucatan, perished there of yellow fever; and many Belgians died of fever in Michoacan. Typhus fever broke out recently in San Luis Potosi and destroyed many of the French garrison stationed there.

The auxiliary corps of Mexican traitors is the smallest body of troops fighting for intervention, and they are kept so purposely on account of the mistrust with which they are regarded. Desertion from the imperial to the republican ranks is another cause of diminution in the former. We know of none other of the Mexican auxiliaries but those of Mejia's division in Matamoras, Oronoz's brigade in Colima, a few of them in Acapulco, and those with Mendez in Michoacan.

As a summary of Napoleon's working forces in the field, we reckon 40,000 foreign troops and 6,000 or 8,000 Mexican imperialists. As the insurrection has now become general all over the country, this force is entirely insufficient for the proposed pacification of Mexico. Unless supplied with constant re-enforcements it will continue to diminish till it is useless; and even with those it has had, it has done nothing to end its mission.

In fact, the military operation of the last months of this year clearly demonstrate that the small fire is not so easily quenched, although the defenders of national independence were called bandits and were treated as such. Small as they may be and meanly as they are treated, their feeble efforts will soon put an end to monarchy and intervention.

The republican cause is still sustained in Tabasco and Chiapas, and the national government kept up. As their peculiar position exempts them from frequent molestation, they employ their leisure time in preparing for new struggles, or in lending aid to the national forces in their vicinity.

In the State of Vera Cruz General Garcia is attracting the enemy's attention, molesting him continually, and often doing considerable damage. We occupy important places for a time, and then are compelled to abandon them to the imperialists. This was the case in Zongolica, Huatasco, and various other towns, which were alternately taken by both parties. The republicans have recently taken possession of Tlapacoyan. The trains on the railway between Cordova and Orizava are frequently fired into. One train was stopped; the French were taken from it and executed.

Colonels Figueroa and Diaz have continued fighting in Oaxaca with varied success. After taking Tehuacan, Figueroa gained another important victory in Trapichito, routing an Austrian column, and taking the money it was escorting. The newspapers of the capital reported that the republican forces were overtaken and punished; but this could not have been true, as they soon returned to the field better equipped than they were before. The good sense of the people of Oaxaca will keep them steadfast in the good cause, particularly as they may expect aid from their neighbors, and can take advantage of the dissensions among the imperialist and Austrian authorities in the capital of the State.

Michoacan has been the theatre of events of much interest. The army of the centre has been reorganized, and has acquired such strength that its headquarters are now only twelve leagues from Morelia. The commander-in-chief has divided his forces into three sections: one under Riva Palacio, another under Zepeda, and taking charge of the third himself. The first advanced upon Morelia on the 12th of October, and would have taken the town if the cavalry had not wasted time in pursuing some flying Belgians outside, which gave the besieged time to strengthen their fortifications within the city. Our forces thus frustrated retired, with considerable loss to the Belgians.

The imperial newspapers also reported the defeat of Zepeda by Carriedo, a lieutenant colonel in the employ of the interventionists. As we have heard nothing of this from any other source we are inclined to doubt its truth.

As to the third section, we mentioned it when speaking of General Arteaga's assassination. Mendez says his victory at Santa Ana Amatlan was owing to his hurried march of twelve leagues through the hot region; but we think it more attributable to chance.

The lamentable events mentioned have not put an end to the war in Michoacan, a State that has distinguished itself in this war, for the chiefs there have given varied proofs of valor and constancy. General Regules has been put in command of the army of the centre, in place of General Arteaga. This distinguished leader, assisted by Bonda, Garcia, and many others, will preserve the good name of the State, and may add new honors to its renown by future deeds of glory.

The partisan leader, Ugalde, already so famous, has not failed to act in his line of business. He routed a force that was sent out after him from Mexico in San Felipe, and after a hard day's march had another encounter with the enemy, with the loss of a few of his men. As is usual, when republican news is reported in imperialist papers, Ugalde was said to be cut to pieces, and his force entirely destroyed. This was not true, for the formidable partisan made his appearance in a few days with a better force than before.

The republican Escamilla routed the imperialists under Llorente, at Huasteca, and both leaders were killed in the action.

It would be a tedious task to mention all the encounters of our partisans with the enemy; suffice it to say, the republicans mostly get the advantage, and their number in the good cause increases, often swelled by those who had formerly figured in the intervention ranks when they had been forced to fight. General Juan Vicario belongs to this number; he pronounced against the imperial government in Matamoras. Fermin Valdes, lately killed in an encounter, was another of these. If a few of these partisans surrender, as Fragosa did, a second time, many others rise up to take his place, thus demonstrating that the contest will be interminable.

In the State of Guerrero, where the public spirit has not been disturbed, the republican forces are increasing, and many of them joined General Diaz after his escape from prison. The brave sons of this State will soon have occasion to lend important aid to the national cause, as the port of Acapulco has been held since September by 500 men, under Montenegro, protected by the French fleet. When our garrison evacuated the town, most of the inhabitants left with them, and remained in the neighborhood, to prevent the entry of provisions for the enemy's use, as well as to harass them if they ventured outside. They can only get provisions now by sea. Many of the garrison are sick, and not a man can venture beyond the town without running the risk of capture. They would have been attacked and destroyed long ago but for the French vessels which protect them. They have lately received re-enforcements under a certain Torres, and, it is said, 500 more are coming from Mazatlan. For all this their position is not much better; for, if they confine themselves to the port, disease and

hunger will destroy them; and if they venture into the interior, the obstacles and difficulties they meet with will be insuperable in a defensive warfare.

General Escobedo having determined upon a new campaign in the frontier States, marched upon Matamoras with all the troops he could raise in Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon, and Coahuila. The first cavalry brigade was left to guard Monterey.

On the 22d of October the northern army corps camped at Alvino Peña, within cannon-shot of the town. General Escobedo sent Colonel Sostenes Rocha to demand a surrender of the place. As it was refused, trenches were made by the republicans and batteries erected preparatory to an assault.

Tomas Mejia finding some confederate officers among Maximilian's troops had them shot, because he had been informed that they intended to surrender the place to Escobedo, if they found an opportunity.

On the 24th orders were issued for the attack next day. General Hinojosa was placed on the right, General Cortinas on the left, and a feint was to be made in the centre to divert attention. At 2 o'clock on the morning of the 25th a north wind and hard rain came on and continued till 5. As the weather prevented an attack, the troops stationed on the flanks fell back. At half past four the signal for attack was given, but, as it could not be simultaneous, it failed, though commenced with vigor. Hinojosa advanced first and penetrated the city to Independence square. The enemy was repulsed; but, being reinforced from the forts, and supported by the steamer Antonia that came up the river and took our forces in the rear, we had to retreat to our original position. General Hinojosa and Colonel Adolfo Garza were badly wounded in the engagement. At that moment the left wing came in with boldness. General Cortinas took one fort and disabled another; but the enemy's reserve being free, fell upon their new assailants and drove them back. They withdrew in good order.

Thus an affair that would have been of signal importance was frustrated by accident. If the attack had been simultaneous instead of partial, the republicans would have been victorious.

Mejia then sent out his cavalry three consecutive times to attack our centre, and was driven back each time.

There was no formal attack made afterwards. Rain and wind continued without interruption. Skirmishes were lively every day. On the 7th Canales attacked a steamer bringing some French marines to aid, wounded a few men, but the steamer passed.

Hard weather, want of munitions, and the news of the evacuation of Monterey by the French caused us to raise the siege of Matamoras, after vainly endeavoring to provoke Mejia to battle in the open field. Cortinas remained guarding the post while Escobedo marched towards Monterey, on the 14th of November, with the Naranjo brigade; the rest of the troops went into quarters.

The reason why Matamoras was not taken having been explained, it is evident that natural forces, over which we had no control, prevented its fall.

The imperialists, with their usual mendacity, misrepresented this attack; they called it a defeat; did not give the correct list of losses, and represented the republicans as annihilated. If that had been the case, why did not Mejia come out and give chase to the fugitives? Even after Cortinas was left alone in front of the town, the interventionists did not dare to attack him.

During the siege, the American soldiers in Brownsville continued to applaud the besiegers. The traitors and French asserted that they furnished ammunition to the Mexicans. This was the cause of a warm correspondence between the French marine Clouet, Thomas Mejia, and the American General Weitzel, in which the last completely disproves his infraction of neutrality, but does not conceal his sympathy, and that of his men, for the cause of the Mexican republic. Weitzel sent Clouet an insolent note, and would have nothing more to do with the presumptuous marine.

The evident preference of the American army, and all the people, for our cause, makes it hard for them to conceal their expressions; and if the French troops do not withdraw from our soil this feeling will certainly bring about a conflict between France and the United States. General Escobedo, still designing to occupy Monterey, left Cadereyta Jimenez, the 22d of November, with the first and second New Leon brigades and two squadrons of Coahuila rifles, and stopped for the night at Guadalupe, one league from the said capital. It was known to Tinajero and Quiroga, in defence of the capital, that Ruperto Martinez had three hundred men for the republicans; so they determined to attack us before that aid could come up. The attack was made on the 23d, and we stood it bravely. Then we attacked them, with Colonel Treviños's cavalry in the flank and rear and the rest of our forces in front, and routed them completely, taking many prisoners, and arms and ammunition of all sorts.

The expected re-enforcements arriving the next day, the 24th, it was decided to storm the town. Three columns were arranged under Colonels Rocha and Naranjo, with commander Martinez. The attack was made so boldly the single forts soon fell into our hands, the garrison was dispersed, and the fugitives took refuge in the citadel and Obispo fort. The enemy's loss was great.

As soon as our movements were known, Commander La Hayrie of Saltillo, and Jeanningros, just made general, who was going to Monclova, offered assistance to the besieged. La Hayrie, being the nearest, arrived first, reaching Monterey by forced marches on the morning of the 25th. He marched straight into the city and attacked us boldly; but the republican infantry compelled him to retreat. Colonel Roca charged them with his cavalry, and drove them quite out of the city, with the loss of many killed and wounded.

When General Escobedo was about to attack the French and traitors that had hid in the citadel and Obispo fort, he heard that Jeanningros was at San Francisco, only a league and a half from Monterey. As he had not enough forces to hold the place, he left it, in good order, at two o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, the 25th.

We had gone but four leagues when the French cavaly overtook us, harassing our rear; but we soon turned and drove them back. They returned to Monterey that night. Our troops continued their march unmolested to Camargo, where they intended to rest for a new campaign.

Jeanningros's sudden arrival at Monterey annulled the good effect of our three successive victories on the 23d, 24th, and 25th November.

Our repulse of Quiroga and Tinajero, in their first attack, was very commendable; and our subsequent assault and temporary capture of the city was a still more deserving feat. The commander said in his report of the affair: "With plenty of such soldiers, we would soon see the independence and liberty of our dear country secured."

The interventionists distorted the events of Monterey as much as possible, according to their inveterate custom; and the defeat of Tinajero and Quiroga at Guadalupe was changed into an imperial victory. The rout of La Hayrie was passed over in utter silence. They proclaimed a victory over the republican forces when they attacked our rear guard; when we had only three wounded and eight scattered. The only thing they did not deny was the capture of Monterey, in which prevarication was impossible; and that is the way imperialists write history!

In order to concentrate the army, Marshal Bazaine ordered the withdrawal of the French that had invaded the States of New Leon, Coahuila, Chihuahua, Sinaloa, and Sonora in the months of September and October. This movement was made simultaneously, and was soon known by us. Jeanningros left Monterey and Saltillo for San Luis; General Brincourt abandoned the State of Chihuahua, followed by all the traitors that had joined his party. This was a good lesson to those who had changed their principles so suddenly; they were

suddenly abandoned by their new friends, the invaders. The French left every part of Sinaloa, except the port of Mazatlan, and the garrison soon began to desert that place too. And finally, all the foreign troops in Sonora left Ures and Hermosillo and concentrated in Guaymas, which place Colonel Garnier soon left for Mazatlan.

Before the evacuation of Sonora a very lamentable accident occurred. General Rosales, who was compelled to quit Alamos, returned in August to attack the imperialists garrisoned there. This he did with his accustomed courage, but was beaten back with considerable loss, and perished in the fight. Such was the lamentable but glorious end of the victor at San Pedro. Long will the country remember his deeds.

After the evacuation of Chihuahua, the President determined to return to the capital of that State. Before he left El Paso he ordered a town to be laid out at Presidio del Norte, and named it Ojinaga, after the gallant general of that name who perished in defence of the national cause. He issued a circular, ordering all generals, chiefs, and officers who had left the republic without express leave from the government, or those who had overstaid their leave, to be imprisoned as soon as they returned and tried for the offence. * *

Two days before the government left this place it was honored by a ball given by the American officers in Fort Bliss, as a testimonial of their sympathy and esteem, which had been shown before on several occasions.

When the government returned to Chihuahua the new governor and military commander was in power. When the French left, they appointed Felix Maceyra as governor, upon the recommendation of the principal citizens. Then Colonel José Merino, political chief and military commander of the eastern frontier of the State, making use of the power conferred upon him by the government, made Luis Terrazas political chief and military commander of the capital, and he immediately assumed the position, and he was soon confirmed in it by the State government. There was this singular coincidence with Terrazas: he had been made political prefect of the department by General Brincourt, when the French had possession, and confirmed by Maximilian. Both appointments were undoubtedly made on account of his popularity. Maximilian did not know him, but presumed he would lend himself to the cause of intervention. He was much mistaken. Mr. Terrazas's loyal and patriotic conduct will be honored in all time to come.

The President left El Paso on the 13th of November, and arrived in Chihuahua on the 20th. An account of his reception there was published in a supplement to the official paper on the 21st. It is a faithful and exact report of the memorable celebration. * * * * * *

The government had hardly got to Chihuahua when it was rumored that the French had returned to the State. At first the strange report was hard to believe, for it could not be imagined why the enemy should come back and repossess the same places they had just left. But it was a serious fact, and the invading forces rapidly approached the capital. They were not far off, when the government resolved to return to El Paso a second time.

To judge from reports, the advance movement of the enemy was general, just as the retreat had been a few months before. In fact, Jeanningros came back from San Luis to Monclova about that time, driving out Andres S. Viezca, governor and military commander of the State of Coahuila de Zaragoza, and following him almost to Piedras Negras. We do not know if the same happened in Sinaloa and Sonora, but we presume it did, as that was Marshal Bazaine's general plan.

Generals Rubi and Corona have their forces united in Sinaloa to oppose the enemy. They have possession of the entire State, except the port of Mazatlan, and they were approaching to take that. They are prepared for every emergency. As to Sonora, although Gandara had induced many of the semi-

savages of the State to adhere to intervention, it is most probable he has been whipped by General Martinez and Colonel Correa, who went with a republican force to meet him. These chiefs, in union with General Garcia Morales, at any rate, will keep alive the flames of insurrection.

The President of the republic reached this city on the 18th instant. At the distance of two leagues from town he was received by the local authorities, the principal citizens, and many country people. A band of music met him at the entrance of the town, and accompanied him with crowds to the house prepared for his place of residence. The people applauded him as he advanced, and the firing of guns, the ringing of bells, and salvos of artillery expressed the public rejoicing. The houses of the principal streets were hung with curtains and flags. There was a banquet spread in the building prepared for the President, and it was attended by the local functionaries and many distinguished persons, some of whom carried their amiability so far as to wait on the table themselves. Many ladies called on the chief of the nation the next day, and he seemed delighted with the demonstration of preference thus displayed.

General Ignacio Mejia was appointed minister of war on the 25th. The good services he has rendered his country on various occasions makes him worthy of the position. He was one of the chief defenders of the national cause on the memorable 5th of May, 1862, and at the siege of Puebla, in the following year, where he was taken prisoner and sent to France. He has remained steadfast in his cause, and rejected indignantly all proposals of submission to the interventionist government. Now he has returned home, he will have an opportunity to devote himself anew to the service of his country, as he is now doing in the high position to which he has been deservedly called by the confidence of the President of the republic.

A few days after the establishment of the government in this city, a report was circulated that the enemy from Chihuahua intended to attack us. This seemed very probable, as the invaders are doing all they can to drive the Chief Magistrate of the nation from Mexican territory. But it seems they are not in a condition to undertake new excursions, as the troops at the capital are not sufficient to garrison that place, and furnish an expedition against this, at the same time. It is even reported they are so weak, they are afraid of an attack from us, and are digging trenches and erecting fortifications for defence.

In case of an attack upon us, we will be well prepared for it. Due preparations for defence are making around us, and both the State and general governments are collecting all the elements of war for the occasion. In case of the enemy's advance he will most probably meet with an unexpected resistance, capable of frustrating his plans; and even if it should not be so, he will scarcely succeed in driving the President from the national territory.

All this will not put an end to the war that has already lasted four years; nothing less than an abandonment of invasion will do it. The national cause is certainly in a better condition to-day than it was at the close of 1864. Great advances have been made against intervention in Europe, in the United States, and in our own republic, of late years, and we have taken care to note them down in the series of our reviews. The very probable withdrawal of the French troops; the end of the civil war in the neighboring nation, and its firm position on the Monroe doctrine; Maximilian's want of pecuniary means, and the impossibility of obtaining them by loans; the disorder of everything in the empire, and the determination in the country to resist foreign dominion—these are the marked advantages that have been gained within the last twelve months. Many anticipated advantages have been realized in 1865. We have good reason now to hope that French intervention will soon come to a close, and leave the Mexican republic to re-establish its former independence, and restore its liberal institutions before the end of the year of 1866.

Paso del Norte, December 31, 1865.

ANTONIO DE CASTRO Y CARRILLO.

No. 11.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 6, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 18th of May last, containing some extracts from a pamphlet entitled "The Foreign Question," published at Paso del Norte, for the information contained in which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 12.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, May 28, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: As one of the many proofs of barbarity perpetrated by the French troops now desolating Mexico with the pretext of restoring peace, I have the honor to send you, for the information of the government of the United States, a copy of No. 14 of the official paper of the government of the Mexican republic, of the 26th of April last, and desire to call your attention to the correspondence therein published by the department of war and marine, consisting of the following documents:

1. A communication from General A. S. Viezca, governor and military commander of the State of Coahuila, dated the 29th of January last, and addressed to the department mentioned, giving a report of his expeditions and stating that the French forces and interventionists had burnt the towns of Matamoras and Soledad and many houses in Viezca, all in that State, murdering fifty harmless and unarmed persons, two men over eighty years of age and a boy of twelve.

2. Two orders signed by Maximo Campos, chief of a column of intervention troops under the command of the French General Brincourt, dated the 9th and 10th of February last, and addressed to the associate judge of the town of San Lorenzo, commanding him to burn the houses of eleven persons who had deserted his ranks, in which they had been forced, and to turn their families from their homes on account of the supposed crime of their relatives.

3. The reply of General Ignacio Mejia, minister of war, to the note of Governor Viezca, before referred to.

4. A communication from General Luis Terrazas, governor of the State of Chihuahua, enclosing a note from the civil and military chief of the canton of Camargo, informing him that three hundred French had burnt the town of Atotonilco and several estates, one of them the Rancho de Palomas.

5. Another communication from the same Governor Terrazas, containing the report of the mayor of Atotonilco, on the 13th of April, giving details of the destruction of that place by the French, who turned the inhabitants out of their houses, and burned every one of them, thus leaving a number of innocent families without shelter. The mayor added that the French soon left to destroy the town of Rio Florido in the same manner, and on quitting the ruins of Atotonilco they said nobody should live there again, and they would return in a week and shoot any one who had come back to live there.

6. And lastly, the minister of war's reply to the preceding communication.

It seems to me unnecessary to comment upon these atrocities reported in the official documents I have the honor to enclose, as they plainly show the designs of the French in Mexico, and I have no doubt the government of the United States will coincide in the general opinion that is entertained.

I embrace the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Translation from the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, No. 14.—Paso del Norte, April 22, 1866.]

[Enclosure No. 1.]

DEPARTMENT OF WAR AND MARINE.—GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF COAHUILA DE ZARAGOZA.

The result of our victories in San Carlos and San Juan de Guadalupe determined us to march against Parras. It was thought expedient to draw the attention of the enemy in another direction, and with this intent, Colonel Geronimo Treviño, who was near Monterey with all his forces, was ordered to harass the enemy in the State of New Leon until we could unite and attack Saltillo or Monterey. He thought it a good idea, and prepared to start for Saltillo on the 15th of last month.

Two hundred men were ready when news came from Cuatro Cienagas that Colonel Jesus Gonzales Herrera had to quit Parras with three hundred men, as General Brincourt was marching upon that place with a division, and was soon to unite with the forces of Francisco Treviño and Maximo Campos. So our proposed expedition upon Saltillo had to be postponed.

Not many days had passed when we heard the French had burned Matamoras and Soledad, and all the houses of loyal citizens in the town of Viezca. We also heard they had murdered fifty unarmed and innocent people, among them two men eighty years of age, and a boy of twelve. After that Brincourt returned to Durango, leaving only three hundred men to garrison Viezca.

Now, as Jeanningros's forces were scattered, and as there were only three hundred men in Monterey, we determined to take that place with Treviño and Naranjo to assist us.

I cannot here omit a respectful mention of the people of this frontier. In spite of their destitution they furnished ammunition, clothes, and provisions to the troops raised in their region, and contributed nine thousand dollars to equip Colonel Naranjo's forces; they also gave aid to Colonel Zepeda's regiment, and even went to manufacturing powder for the brave patriots that needed it so much.

The best soldiers in our army come from that region, and the best of it is, they are all volunteers!

I cannot close this despatch without informing you that when Commander Victor Berlanga was returning from Guadalupe, he was surprised by a large troop of French, but escaped with the loss of a few provisions.

I will communicate the detail of recent events to the department as soon as received. You will please bring this to the knowledge of the supreme chief of the republic.

Independence and liberty!

A. S. VIEZCA.
EDUARDO MUZQUEZ,
Secretary.

The MINISTER OF WAR, *Paso del Norte.*

SAN BUENAVENTURA, January 29, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

GOVERNMENT AND COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF COAHUILA DE ZARAGOZA.

SAN JOSÉ DEL BARRIO,
February 9, 1866.

As soon as you receive this order you will drive the families named in the margin out of their houses, as their fathers are deserters, and have them burnt, and if the inhabitants are refractory I will destroy the whole place.

If any of the men make their appearance you will arrest them instantly and send them to me.

MAXIMO CAMPOS,
Commander-in-Chief.

The ASSOCIATE JUDGE *of San Lorenzo.*

The names written in the margin are, Felix Rivera, Julian Rivera, Juan Carrillo, Encarnacion Mata, Maximo Agüero, Isac Barrientos, Cruz Garcia, Eulogio Mesa, Pedro Anguiano, Ricardo Madril, and Bruno Mendez.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

EXPEDITIONARY COLUMN AT LAGUNA, SAN JOSÉ DE LOS ALAMOS,
February 10, 1866.

I have received your communication, and I am by no means pleased with your reply to my orders to burn the houses of the deserters. What you say is only an evasion, an excuse for disobedience to superior orders, and it therefore becomes necessary to punish a judge severely as a warning to others.

If my order to burn the houses, whether rented or owned, is not obeyed by the time my forces reach the place, the whole town shall be destroyed.

MAXIMO CAMPOS,
Commander-in-Chief.

The ASSOCIATE JUDGE *of San Lorenzo.*

The two notes above are true copies of the originals, as certified by me, at San José del Burro, on the 19th of February, 1866.

EDUARDO MUZQUIZ,
Secretary.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE, SECTION FIRST.

PASO DEL NORTE, *March* 6, 1866.

The President of the republic has received your communication of the 29th of January last, relating to the organization of a new company, and the opportune aid of the citizens of the State. He is much pleased with this proof of their patriotism, and instructs me to thank you and them for signal services.

He is indignant at the barbarous conduct of the French troops that came from Durango, under Brincourt, to burn the houses in Laguna, and murder many persons, among them two old men and a boy, in revenge for their defeat at San Carlos and San Juan de Guadalupe. Such acts are additional proofs of the negative

blessings of intervention, and of the inhuman and sanguinary method the French leader are adopting to terrify the people of the country since it is impossible to conquer them.

Independence and liberty!

MEJIA.

The GOVERNOR AND MILITARY COMMANDER
of the State of Coahuila de Zaragoza.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF CHIHUAHUA.—WAR SECTION NO. 39.

In a communication of the 11th instant, the civil and military chief of the canton of Camargo writes to this department as follows:

"Persons from Atotonilco report that three hundred French burnt that place yesterday, allowing families to leave. They say other places have been burned, Rancho de Palomas for instance, and it is not known whether the enemy will come on this way or go back."

I send this for your information and consequent action.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, April 14, 1866.

LUIS TERRAZAS.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE, *Paso del Norte.*

[Enclosure No. 6.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF CHIHUAHUA.—WAR SECTION NO. 42.

In a communication of the 13th instant, the civil chief of the canton of Camargo writes to this department as follows:

"The mayor of Atotonilco reported to this office yesterday as follows:

"The French, to the number of two hundred and fifty infantry and fifty cavalry, reached this place at two o'clock day before yesterday, and having taken possession, ordered all the houses to be vacated, with three days' provisions, as it would be burned next morning, every house except the church and parsonage. At sunset a general pillage began and continued to a late hour of the night. The pillage was resumed next morning, and the houses were burned. The enemy left the town in ruins this morning, and marched towards Rio Florido, to serve that place in the same way. The only kindness to us was sparing our lives; nobody was killed; but they threaten to return in a week and shoot any one who dares to come back.

"I beg you to publish this notice, and put it in the hands of the commander of the line. Communicate it also to the governor."

I send you the above for the information of the President of the republic.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, April 17, 1866.

LUIS TERRAZAS.

The MINISTER OF WAR, *&c.*, *El Paso del Norte.*

[Enclosure No. 7.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE.—SECTION FIRST.

The President of the republic has received your communication of the 17th instant, enclosing that of the civil prefect of Camargo, giving the particulars of

the burning and sacking of Atotonilco by three hundred French of the invading army. This shows their spite against patriots who will not give up their country's cause. The justice of our cause will finally punish these criminals for their inhuman acts at Atotonilco and elsewhere; and those who have suffered from their cruelty shall receive due reward and compensation for the destruction of their property.

Independence and liberty! Paso del Norte, April 23, 1866.

MEJIA.

The GOVERNOR AND MILITARY COMMANDER *of the State of Chihuahua.*

No. 13.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 7, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 28th of May last, containing No. 14 of the official paper of your government, which you transmit for the information of the government of the United States.

Be pleased to accept my thanks for the same.

I avail myself of the opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 14.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *June* 10, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I deem proper to communicate to you a copy of a letter which I received to-day from the Hon. Robert C. Schenck, member of Congress from the State of Ohio, dated the day before yesterday in this city, making some inquiries in relation to a bill which had been introduced in the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, to guarantee certain bonds of the Mexican government. I also enclose a copy of my answer which I give on this date, to General Schenck.

I am, Mr. Secretary, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington City, D. C., June 8, 1866.

SIR: You are doubtless aware that, as usually happens when any important measure is brought up as a subject of legislation, certain rumors have been set afloat to the prejudice of Mexican interests and of the efforts which the friends of the republican cause in your country have been making among us for its aid; namely, doubts to the effect that the proposed loan to Mexico may not be duly authorized by your government; and that, if guaranteed, the proceeds may in part fall

into the hands of speculators, instead of being wholly placed at the disposal of the republican government of Mexico.

As I feel a deep solicitude for the cause which your government is struggling to maintain, will you, in order that I may be able, if necessary, to afford the proper explanations, have the goodness to inform me—

1. Is it under the direct auspices of the republic of Mexico that the proposal to guarantee such loan or loans is made?

2. Will the entire proceeds of such loan or loans, if guaranteed, be placed at the uncontrolled disposal of your government, passing into the custody of its duly authorized agents and officials, and will the money thus realized be paid out duly in conformity with the orders or contracts of the said government; in a word, solely for the benefit of the republic of Mexico?

3. Will the bonds comprising said loan or loans be sold at the highest market price?

4. And finally, are the proposed proceedings in the premises and the arrangements for the sale of any loan or loans that may be guaranteed by the United States satisfactory to yourself and to your government?

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT C. SCHENCK.

His Excellency M. ROMERO,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Mexico, Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, *Junio* 10 *de* 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

WASHINGTON, *June* 10, 1866.

DEAR SIR: I have had to-day the honor of receiving your letter of the 8th instant, informing me that, "as usually happens when any important measure is brought up as a subject of legislation, certain rumors have been set afloat to the prejudice of Mexican interests and of the efforts which the friends of the republican cause in my country have been making for its aid; namely, doubts to the effect that the proposed loan to Mexico may not be duly authorized by my government; and that, if guaranteed, the proceeds may in part fall into the hands of speculators instead of being wholly placed at the disposal of the republican government of Mexico."

You are kind enough to add that "you feel a deep solicitude for the cause which my government is struggling to maintain," and that, "in order to be able, if necessary, to afford the proper explanations," you ask me for information on four different points.

It is very gratifying for me, sir, to see that men of your character and standing take so deep an interest in the cause of my country as to make you disposed not only to render her material aid, but to collect the necessary information which may enable you to answer the objections which might be raised to the disadvantage of Mexico.

I have noticed that the friends of Mexico, among whom I am glad to say you occupy a prominent place, have introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives of the United States with a view to give the guarantee of the United States to some amount of Mexican bonds. Although we have not proposed such plan, it would be entirely satisfactory to us if approved by Congress and the Executive of the United States, as it would meet, in my opinion, all the

exigencies of the situation. Whatever may be the result of it, it will always be a source of great gratification to us to see that such an idea was conceived, and tried to be carried out, for the purpose of affording national aid to a neighboring people struggling for the cause of American nationality, self-government, and republican institutions.

In what I have already written, I think I have answered your first question.

My answer to your second question is as follows: Should the Mexican loan be guaranteed, I know of no reason why the proceeds of it should not be placed at the uncontrolled disposal of my government, passing into the custody of its duly authorized agents and officials. The money thus realized would be duly paid out in conformity with the orders or contracts of my said government, and only for the benefit of the republic of Mexico.

In answer to your third question I have to state that the bonds comprising the loan so guaranteed would, of course, be sold at the highest market price that could be realized.

In what I have written will be found, I believe, my answer to your fourth question. I will only add that my views and the views of my government in regard to the convenience and even necessity of obtaining means in this country to defend the independence and institutions of Mexico are fully expressed in a letter that I had the honor to address to the Secretary of State on the 23d of July, 1865, and which was sent by the President to Congress with his message of March 20, 1866. (House Ex. Doc. No. 73, 39th Congress, 1st session, page 176.)

As for the arrangements made for the sale of any loan that may be guaranteed by the United States, I will state that we have made very equitable arrangements with a New York house which brought to market the Mexican bonds offered for sale in October last, and signed by General Carvajal as agent of the Mexican government. These arrangements are satisfactory to myself and to my government.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. ROBERT C. SCHENCK, *&c., &c., &c., Washington, D. C.*

WASHINGTON, *Junio* 10, *de* 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 15.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 7, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 10th ultimo, containing a copy of a letter addressed to you by the honorable Robert C. Schenck in relation to a project to guarantee certain bonds of your government, and to thank you for the information.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 16.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *June* 14, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you the copy of a letter I received yesterday from a reliable person in Bordeaux, dated the 31st of May last, giving me some important information relative to the intentions and plans of the French government in regard to Mexico. You are a better judge than I am of the importance to be attached to the information I deem it my duty to communicate to your department.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure.]

BORDEAUX, *May* 31, 1856.

MUCH ESTEEMED FRIEND:

* * * * * * * *

An ex-minister of Maximilian writes from Paris to an acquaintance here, that since the Austrian volunteers that were about to embark for Vera Cruz were disbanded at Mr. Seward's request, an effort is being made to retain most of the French soldiers in Mexico under Mexican colors. I heard another person assure that a loan of six millions of dollars a year for four years was negotiating in France, to be secured by the pledge of mineral lands to be worked by a French company, with the privilege of shipping the ore to Europe to be reduced.

Don Manuel Larrainzar, who went to St. Petersburg as agent for Maximilian, to solicit the recognition of the Emperor of Russia, writes to an acquaintance on the 25th instant as follows:

"On passing through Paris I had a conversation with Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys; and, in spite of the opposition of a certain party and the embarrassing position in which the Emperor will be placed, I think the French government will examine Mexican affairs in all particulars, and will endeavor to solve them so as to leave the government of our august sovereign free and unembarrassed."

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *Washington.*

WASHINGTON, *June* 14, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 17.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 7, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 14th ultimo, transmitting copy of a letter addressed to you by a gentleman of Bordeaux intending to show the intentions of the French government with regard to Mexico, and to thank you for the information.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 18.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, June 19, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, a lithograph copy in German, which I received by the last mail from Vera Cruz, of the proclamation dated the 19th of May last, addressed by the usurper Maximilian to the Austrian and Belgian troops in his service, informing them that they would hereafter be paid by the French treasury, thus removing the obstacles of pay caused by the financial crisis in the so-called empire.

I accept this occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure.]

To the officers, under-officers and soldiers of my Austrio-Belgian volunteer corps:

Always mindful of the welfare and careful of the rights of my subjects, and remembering your oft-proved devotion and self-denial for my good during the present financial crisis, I have determined to accept the generous offer of material aid from France. From this time forward you will form part of one and the same division, you and your companions-in-arms, who are called to share your hardships and dangers. One administration will have the care of your general welfare; but you will retain your excellent organization and your officers, whose capability and courage has served so often as a good example on the battle-field and in the hour of victory.

Thus are your rights and your interests secured, and now trust your emperor, who will always confide in your courage and good discipline.

MAXIMILIAN, *Emperor.*

MEXICO, *May* 19, 1866.

A certified copy:

THUN, *General.*

No. 19.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 7, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 19th ultimo, transmitting, for the information of the government of the United States, a lithograph copy, in German, of the proclamation addressed by the Prince Maximilian to the Austrian and Belgian troops in his service, informing them that they would henceforth be paid out of the French treasury. Be pleased to accept my thanks for the information.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 20.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *July* 4, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: Believing you will be interested in the reception of reliable information concerning the transport of foreign troops to Mexico, to sustain the usurpation of the ex-Archduke Maximilian, I take the liberty of enclosing to you, with this letter, No. 1870 of Le Temps, a French paper published the 18th of June last, in Paris, on the third page of which is an extract from the Phare de la Loire, of the 16th, reporting the departure of a detachment of the so-called Foreign Legion, composed of four officers and 190 subalterns and soldiers from Aix to Saint Nazaire, to embark on the steamer Emperatriz Eugenie for Vera Cruz; and a number of Austrian officers, who were to have gone in the steamer Tampico, went to Saint Nazaire to take the steamer for the same destination.

An English translation of the article from the Phare de la Loire is also enclosed.

Your most attentive and obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure.]

[Translation from Le Temps, Paris, June 18, 1866.]

We read in the Phare de la Loire of the 16th of June:

"A detachment of the Foreign Legion, consisting of four officers, 190 sub-officers and soldiers, coming from Aix, arrived to-day, at 1.40 p. m., at Mauves station, and started from there this evening by the 4.30 train, going to Saint Nazaire to take their passage on board the transatlantic steamer Impératrice Eugénie for Vera Cruz.

"A number of the officers of the corps of Austrian volunteers, who were to have left for Mexico by the Tampico, but were forced to remain in Austria, have also reached Saint Nazaire, for the purpose of embarking for Mexico."

No. 21.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 12, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 4th instant, containing a copy of a paper called Le Temps, and to thank you for its contents.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 22.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, July 8, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: Although I presume that you have received through the United States legation in Paris the series of documents on the Mexican question presented in June last by the French government to its legislative body, and published in the Moniteur of the 10th and 11th of June, I take the liberty of sending you an English translation of them with this note. I enclose to you also the debate of the 13th in the legislative body on Mexican affairs, published in the Moniteur of the 14th.

These documents give a new proof of the little sincerity of the French government in its pretexts for making war on Mexico.

In the ultimatum of the French commissioners, De Saligny and Rear-Admiral Jurien de la Gravière, made in January, 1862, at Vera Cruz, it was required (article 1) that Mexico should pay France twelve millions of dollars in cash and without examination, as indemnity for all claims caused by injuries to French subjects up to the 31st of July, 1861.

This was done at the same time that the French minister of foreign affairs acknowledged officially that Mexico could make no cash payment.

Now—that is, after five years' war—when the damages to French subjects on account of it must be much greater than in times of peace, when the Emperor of the French is not treating with the national government of Mexico, which it sought to destroy and establish a monarchy upon its ruins, but with its mannikin, the so-called chief of the monarchical farce established by French bayonets and supported by French gold, the Emperor Napoleon consents to receive forty millions of francs, or eight millions of dollars, as indemnity for all damages up to September, 1865, and to take that sum in paper issued by fraud, pretending it is an obligation of the nation, when he who issued it has no right to do it, or to burden the nation in any way, and which paper, despite the efforts of the French government to give it value, is so worthless that nobody would buy it in France, according to late dates, unless they got five hundred franc bonds for one hundred and seventy francs.

We cannot find out by this computation what it has cost the French government to effect the arrangement, but it must be at least four times the sum it now agrees to accept as indemnity to French subjects.

This alone shows that the object of the war made by the Emperor Napoleon on Mexico is not to obtain reparation for supposed grievances, as was pretended, but to overturn a republican government and commence a monarchical propaganda in this hemisphere.

I also take the liberty respectfully to call your attention to Mr. Jules Favre's speech, and that part relating to the United States, of Mr. Jerome David, who was the spokesman of the French government.

I embrace the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure.]

[From the "Moniteur Universel," the official paper of the French government, Nos. 161 and 162, of the 10th and 11th of June, 1866, pages 723 and 730.]

DIPLOMATIC DOCUMENTS, 1866—UNITED STATES—CONTINUATION OF THE CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE TO THE AFFAIRS OF MEXICO.

The Secretary of State of the United States to Marquis de Montholon, French Minister at Washington.

WASHINGTON, *February* 12, 1866.

SIR: On the 6th of December I had the honor to submit to you in writing, for the information of the Emperor, a communication upon the subject of affairs in Mexico, as affected by the presence of French armed forces in that country. On the 29th of January thereafter you favored me with a reply to that communication, which reply had been transmitted to you by Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys, under the date of the 9th of the same month. I have submitted it to the President of the United States. It is now made my duty to revert to the interesting question which has thus been brought under discussion.

In the first place I take notice of the points which are made by Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys.

He declares that the French expedition into Mexico had in it nothing hostile to the institutions of the New World, and still less of anything hostile to the United States. As proofs of this friendly statement, he refers to the aid in blood and treasure which France contributed in our revolutionary war to the cause of our national independence; to the preliminary proposition that France made to us that we should join her in her expedition to Mexico; and, finally, to the neutrality which France has practiced in the painful civil war through which we have just successfully passed. It gives me pleasure to acknowledge that the assurances thus given on the present occasion that the French expedition, in its original design, had no political objects or motives, harmonize entirely with expressions which abound in the earlier correspondence of the minister of foreign affairs, which arose out of the war between France and Mexico.

We accept with especial pleasure the reminiscences of our traditional friendship.

Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys next assures us that the French government is disposed to hasten, as much as possible, the recall of its troops from Mexico. We hail the announcement as being a virtual promise of relief to this government from the apprehensions and anxieties which were the burden of that communication of mine which Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys has had under consideration.

Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys proceeds to declare that the only aim of France, in pursuing her enterprise in Mexico, has been to follow up the satisfaction to which she had a right after having resorted to coercive measures, when measures of every other form had been exhausted. Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys says that it is known how many and legitimate were the claims of French subjects which caused the resort to arms. He then reminds us how, on a former occasion, the United States had waged war on Mexico. On this point it seems equally necessary and proper to say, that the war thus referred to was not made nor sought by the United States, but was accepted by them under provocations of a very grave character. The transaction is past and the necessity and justice of the proceedings of the United States are questions which now rest only within the province of history. France, I think, will acknowledge, that neither in the beginning of our Mexican war nor in its prosecution, nor in the terms on which we retired from that successful contest, did the United States assume any position inconsistent with the principles which are now maintained by us in regard to the French expedition in Mexico.

We are, as we have been, in relations of amity and friendship equally with France and with Mexico, and therefore we cannot, consistently with those

relations, constitute ourselves a judge of the original merits of the war which is waged between them. We can speak concerning that war only so far as we are affected by its bearing upon ourselves and upon republican and American institutions on this continent.

Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys declares that the French army, in entering Mexico, did not carry monarchical traditions in the folds of its flag. In this connection he refers to the fact that there were at the time of the expedition a number of influential men in Mexico who despaired of obtaining order out of the conditions of the republican rule then existing there, and who, therefore, cherished the idea of falling back upon monarchy. In this connection we are further reminded that one of the later presidents of Mexico offered to use his power for the re-establishment of royalty. We are further informed that at the time of the French invasion the persons before referred to deemed the moment to have arrived for making an appeal to the people of Mexico in favor of monarchy. Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys remarks that the French government did not deem it a duty to discourage that supreme effort of a powerful party, which had its origin long anterior to the French expedition.

Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys observes that the Emperor, faithful to maxims of public right which he holds in common with the United States, declared on that occasion that the question of change of institutions rested solely on the suffrages of the Mexican people. In support of this statement, Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys gives us a copy of a letter which the Emperor addressed to the commander-in-chief of the French expedition on the capture of Pueblo, which letter contained the following words: "Our object, you know, is not to impose on the Mexicans a government against their will, nor to make our success aid the triumph of any party whatsoever. I desire that Mexico may rise to a new life, and that soon, regenerated by a government founded on the national will, on principles of order and of progress, and of respect for the laws of nations, she may acknowledge by her friendly relations that she owes to France her repose and her prosperity."

Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys pursues his argument by saying that the Mexican people have spoken; that the Emperor Maximilian has been called by the voice of the country; that his government has appeared to the Emperor of the French to be of a nature adequate to restore peace to the nation, and, on its part, peace to international relations, and that he has therefore given it his support. Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys thereupon presents the following as a true statement of the present case: France went to Mexico to exercise the right of war, which is exercised by the United States, and not in virtue of any purpose of intervention, concerning which she recognizes the same doctrine with the United States. France went there not to bring about a monarchical proselytism, but to obtain reparations and guarantees which she ought to claim; and, being there, she now sustains the government which is founded on the consent of the people, because she expects from that government the just satisfaction of her wrongs, as well as the securities indispensable to the future. As she does not seek the satisfaction of an exclusive interest, nor the realization of any ambitious schemes, so she now wishes to recall what remains in Mexico of the army corps which France has sent there, at the moment when she will be able to do so with safety to French citizens and with due respect for herself.

I am aware how delicate the discussion is to which Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys thus invites me. France is entitled, by every consideration of respect and friendship, to interpret for herself the objects of the expedition, and of the whole of her proceedings in Mexico. Her explanation of those motives and objects is, therefore, accepted on our part with the consideration and confidence which we expect for explanations of our own when assigned to France or any other friendly power. Nevertheless, it is my duty to insist that, whatever were the intentions, purposes, and objects of France, the proceedings which were

adopted by a class of Mexicans for subverting the republican government there, and for availing themselves of French intervention to establish on its ruins an imperial monarchy, are regarded by the United States as having been taken without the authority, and prosecuted against the will and opinions, of the Mexican people. For these reasons it seems to this government that, in supporting institutions thus established in derogation of the inalienable rights of the people of Mexico, the original purposes and objects of the French expedition, though they have not been, as a military demand of satisfaction, abandoned, nor lost out of view by the Emperor of the French, were, nevertheless, left to fall into a condition in which they seem to have become subordinate to a political revolution, which certainly would have not occurred if France had not forcibly intervened, and which, judging from the genius and character of the Mexican people, would not now be maintained by them if that armed intervention should cease. The United States have not seen any satisfactory evidence that the people of Mexico have spoken, and have called into being or accepted the so-called empire which it is insisted has been set up in their capital. The United States, as I have remarked on other occasions, are of opinion that such an acceptance could not have been freely procured or lawfully taken at any time in the presence of the French army of invasion. The withdrawal of the French forces is deemed necessary to allow such a proceeding to be taken by Mexico. Of course the Emperor of France is entitled to determine the aspect in which the Mexican situation ought to be regarded by him. Nevertheless, the view which I have thus presented is the one which this nation has accepted. It therefore recognizes, and must continue to recognize, in Mexico only the ancient republic, and it can in no case consent to involve itself, either directly or indirectly, in relations with or recognition of the institution of the Prince Maximilian in Mexico.

This position is held, I believe, without one dissenting voice by our countrymen. I do not presume to say that this opinion of the American people is accepted or will be adopted generally by other foreign powers, or by the public opinion of mankind. The Emperor is quite competent to form a judgment upon this important point for himself. I cannot, however, properly exclude the observation that, while this question affects by its bearings, incidentally, every republican state in the American hemisphere, every one of those states has adopted the judgment which, on the behalf of the United States, is herein expressed. Under these circumstances it has happened, either rightfully or wrongfully, that the presence of European armies in Mexico, maintaining a European prince with imperial attributes, without her consent and against her will, is deemed a source of apprehension and danger, not alone to the United States, but also to all the independent and sovereign republican states founded on the American continent and its adjacent islands. France is acquainted with the relations of the United States towards the other American states to which I have referred, and is aware of the sense that the American people entertain in regard to the obligations and duties due from them to those other states. We are thus brought back to the single question which formed the subject of my communication of the 6th of December last, namely, the desirableness of an adjustment of a question the continuance of which must be necessarily prejudicial to the harmony and friendship which have hitherto always existed between the United States and France.

This government does not undertake to say how the claims of indemnity and satisfaction, for which the war which France is waging in Mexico was originally instituted, shall now be adjusted, in discontinuing what, in its progress, has become a war of political intervention dangerous to the United States and to republican institutions in the American hemisphere. Recognizing France and the republic of Mexico as belligerents engaged in war, we leave all questions concerning those claims and indemnities to them. The United States rest con-

tent with submitting to France the exigencies of an embarrassing situation in Mexico, and expressing the hope that France may find some manner which shall at once be consistent with her interest and honor, and with the principles and interest of the United States, to relieve that situation without injurious delay.

Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys repeats on this occasion what he has heretofore written, namely, that it depends much upon the federal government to facilitate their desire of the withdrawal of the French forces from Mexico. He argues that the position which the United States have assumed has nothing incompatible with the existence of monarchical institutions in Mexico. He draws to his support on this point the fact that the President of the United States, as well as the Secretary of State, in official papers, disclaim all thought of propagandism on the American continent in favor of republican institutions. Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys draws in, also, the fact that the United States hold friendly relations with the Emperor of Brazil, as they held similar relations with Iturbide, the Mexican Emperor, in 1822. From these positions Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys makes the deduction that neither any fundamental maxim, nor any precedent in the diplomatic history of this country, creates any necessary antagonism between the United States and the form of government over which the Prince Maximilian presides in the ancient capital of Mexico.

I do not think it would be profitable, and therefore I am not desirous to engage in the discussions which Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys has thus raised. It will be sufficient for my purpose, on the present occasion, to assert and to give reassurance of our desire to facilitate the withdrawal of the French troops from Mexico, and, for that purpose, to do whatsoever shall be compatible with the positions we have heretofore taken upon that subject, and with our just regard to the sovereign rights of the republic of Mexico. Further or otherwise than this France could not expect us to go. Having thus reassured France, it seems necessary to state anew the position of this government, as it was set forth in my letter of the 6th of December, as follows: Republican and domestic institutions on this continent are deemed most congenial with and most beneficial to the United States. Where the people of any country, like Brazil now, or Mexico in 1822, have voluntarily established and acquiesced in monarchical institutions of their own choice, free from all foreign control or intervention, the United States do not refuse to maintain relations with such governments, or seek through propagandism, by force or intrigue, to overthrow those institutions. On the contrary, where a nation has established institutions republican and domestic, similar to our own, the United States assert in their behalf that no foreign nation can rightfully intervene by force to subvert republican institutions and establish those of an antagonistic character.

Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys seems to think that I have made a double reproach against the Prince Maximilian's alleged government, of the difficulty it encounters and of the assistance it borrows from foreign powers. In that respect Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys contends that the obstacles and the resistance which Maximilian has been obliged to wrestle with have in themselves nothing especial against the form of the institutions which he is supposed by Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys to have established. Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys maintains that Maximilian's government is undergoing the lot quite common to new powers, while, above all, it has the misfortune to have to bear the consequences of discords which have been produced under a previous government. Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys represents this misfortune and this lot to be in effect the misfortune and lot of governments which have not found armed competitors, and which have enjoyed in peace an uncontrolled authority. Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys alleges that revolts and intestine wars are the normal condition of Mexico, and he further insists that the opposition made by some military chiefs to the establishment of an empire under Maximilian is only the natural sequence of the same

want of discipline, and the same prevalence of anarchy, of which his predecessors of power in Mexico have been victims. It is not the purpose, nor would it be consistent with the character of the United States, to deny that Mexico has been for a long time the theatre of faction and intestine war. The United States confess this fact with regret, all the more sincere, because the experience of Mexico has been not only painful for her own people, but has been also of unfortunate evil influence on other nations.

On the other hand, it is neither a right of the United States, nor consistent with their friendly disposition towards Mexico, to reproach the people of that country with her past calamities, much less to invoke or approve of the infliction of punishment upon them by strangers for their political errors. The Mexican population have, and their situation has, some peculiarities which are doubtless well understood by France. Early in the present century they were forced, by convictions which mankind cannot but respect, to cast off a foreign monarchical rule which they deemed incompatible with their welfare and aggrandizement. They were forced, at the same time, by convictions which the world must respect, to attempt the establishment of republican institutions, without the full experience and practical education and habits which would render those institutions all at once firm and satisfactory. Mexico was a theatre of conflict between European commercial, ecclesiastical, and political institutions and dogmas, and novel American institutions and ideas. She had African slavery, colonial restrictions, and ecclesiastical monopolies. In the chief one of these particulars she had a misfortune which was shared by the United States, while the latter were happily exempted from the other misfortunes. We cannot forget that Mexico, sooner and more readily than the United States, abolished slavery. We cannot deny that all the anarchy in Mexico, of which Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys complains, was necessarily, and even wisely, endured in the attempt to lay sure foundations of broad republican liberty.

I do not know whether France can rightfully be expected to concur in this view, which alleviates, in our mind, the errors, misfortunes, and calamities of Mexico. However this may be, we fall back upon the principle that no foreign state can rightly intervene in such trials as those of Mexico, and, on the ground of a desire to correct those errors, deprive the people there of their natural right of domestic and republican freedom. All the injuries and wrongs which Mexico can have committed against any other state have found a severe punishment in consequences which legitimately followed their commission. Nations are not authorized to correct each other's errors except so far as is necessary to prevent or redress injuries affecting themselves. If one state has a right to intervene in any other state to establish discipline, constituting itself a judge of the occasion, then every state has the same right to intervene in the affairs of every other nation, being itself alone the arbiter, both in regard to the time and the occasion. The principle of intervention, thus practically carried out, would seem to render all sovereignty and independence, and even all international peace and amity, uncertain and fallacious.

Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys proceeds to remark that as for the support which Maximilian receives from the French army, as well also as for the support which has been lent to him by Belgian and Austrian volunteers, those supports cause no hindrance to the freedom of his resolutions in the affairs of his government. Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys asks what state is there that does not need allies, either to form or to defend. As to the great powers, such as France and England, do they not constantly maintain foreign troops in their armies? When the United States fought for their independence, did the aid given by France cause that movement to cease to be truly national? Shall it be said that the contest between the United States and the recent insurgents was not in a like manner a national war, because thousands of Irishmen and Germans were found fighting under the flag of the Union? Arguing from anticipated answers to these ques-

tions, Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys reaches a conclusion that the character of Maximilian's government cannot be contested, nor can its efforts to consolidate itself be contested, on the ground of the employment of foreign troops.

Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys, in this argument, seems to us to have overlooked two important facts, namely: first, that the United States, in this correspondence, have assigned definite limits to the right of alliance incompatible with our assent to his argument; and secondly, the fact that the United States have not at any time accepted the supposed government of the Prince Maximilian as a constitutional or legitimate form of government in Mexico, capable or entitled to form alliances.

Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys then arranges, in a graphic manner, the advantages that have arisen, or are to arise, to the United States, from the successful establishment of the supposed empire in Mexico. Instead of a country unceasingly in trouble, and which has given us so many subjects of complaint, and against which we ourselves have been obliged to make war, he shows us in Mexico a pacific country, under a beneficent imperial sway, offering henceforth measures of security and vast openings to our commerce, a country far from injuring our rights and hurting our influences. And he assures us that, above all other nations, the United States are most likely to profit by the work which is being accomplished by Prince Maximilian in Mexico. These suggestions are as natural on the part of France as they are friendly to the United States. The United States are not insensible to the desirableness of political and commercial reform in the adjoining country; but their settled principles, habits, and convictions forbid them to look for such changes in this hemisphere to foreign, royal, or imperial institutions, founded upon a forcible subversion of republican institutions. The United States, in their customary sobriety, regard no beneficial results which could come from such a change in Mexico as sufficient to overbalance the injury which they must directly suffer by the overthrow of the republican government in Mexico.

Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys, at the end of his very elaborate and able review, recapitulates his exposition in the following words: "The United States acknowledge the right we had to make war in Mexico. On the other part, we admit, as they do, the principle of non-intervention. This double postulate includes, as it seems to me, the elements of an agreement. The right to make war, which belongs, as Mr. Seward declares, to every sovereign nation, implies the right to secure the results of war. We have not gone across the ocean merely for the purpose of showing our power, and of inflicting chastisement on the Mexican government. After a train of fruitless remonstrances, it was our duty to demand guarantees against the recurrence of violence from which our country had suffered so cruelly, and those guarantees we could not look for from a government whose bad faith we had proved on so many occasions. We find them now engaged in the establishment of a regular government which shows itself disposed to honestly keep its engagements. In this relation we hope that the legitimate object of our expedition will soon be reached, and we are striving to make with the emperor Maximilian arrangements which, by satisfying our interests and our honor, will permit us to consider at an end the service of the army upon Mexican soil. The Emperor has given an order to write in this same sense to our minister at Mexico. We fall back at that moment on the principle of non-intervention, and from that moment accept it as the rule of our conduct. Our interest, no less than our honor, commands us to claim from all the uniform application of it. Trusting the spirit of equity which animates the cabinet of Washington, we expect from it the assurance that the American people will themselves conform to the law which they invoke, by observing, in regard to Mexico, a strict neutrality. When you [meaning the Marquis de Montholon] shall have informed me of the resolution of the federal government, I shall be

able to indicate to you the nature of the results of our negotiation with the emperor Maximilian for the return of our troops."

I have already, and not without much reluctance, made the comments upon the arguments of Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys which seem to be necessary to guard against the inference of concurrence in questionable positions which might be drawn from our entire silence. I think that I can, therefore, afford to leave his recapitulation of those arguments without such an especial review as would necessarily be prolix, and perhaps hypercritical. The United States have not claimed, and they do not claim, to know what arrangements the Emperor may make for the adjustment of claims for indemnity and redress in Mexico. It would be, on our part, an act of intervention to take cognizance of them. We adhere to our position that the war in question has become a political war between France and the republic of Mexico, injurious and dangerous to the United States and to the republican cause, and we ask only that in that aspect and character it may be brought to an end. It would be illiberal on the part of the United States to suppose that, in desiring or pursuing preliminary arrangements, the Emperor contemplates the establishment in Mexico, before withdrawing his forces, of the very institutions which constitute the material ground of the exceptions taken against his intervention by the United States. It would be still more illiberal to suppose for a moment that he expects the United States to bind themselves indirectly to acquiesce in or support the obnoxious institutions.

On the contrary, we understand him as announcing to us his immediate purpose to bring to an end the service of his armies in Mexico, to withdraw them, and in good faith to fall back, without stipulation or condition on our part, upon the principle of non-intervention upon which he is henceforth agreed with the United States. We cannot understand his appeal to us for an assurance that we ourselves will abide by our own principles of non-intervention in any other sense than as the expression, in a friendly way, of his expectation that when the people of Mexico shall have been left absolutely free from the operation, effects, and consequences of his own political and military intervention, we will ourselves respect their self-established sovereignty and independence. In this view of the subject only can we consider his appeal pertinent to the case. Regarding it in only this aspect, we must meet the Emperor frankly. He knows the form and character of this government. The nation can be bound only by treaties which have the concurrence of the President and two-thirds of the Senate. A formal treaty would be objectionable as unnecessary, except as a disavowal of bad faith on our part, to disarm suspicion in regard to a matter concerning which we have given no cause for questioning our loyalty, or else such a treaty would be refused upon the ground that the application for it by the Emperor of France was unhappily a suggestion of some sinister or unfriendly reservation or purpose on his part in withdrawing from Mexico. Diplomatic assurances given by the President in behalf of the nation can at best be but the expressions of confident expectation on his part that the personal administration, ever changing in conformity and adaptation to the national will, does not misunderstand the settled principles and policy of the American people. Explanations cannot properly be made by the President in any case wherein it would be deemed, for any reason, objectionable on grounds of public policy by the treaty-making power of the government to introduce or entertain negotiations.

With these explanations I proceed to say that, in the opinion of the President, France need not for a moment delay her proposed withdrawal of military forces from Mexico, and her putting the principle of non-intervention into full and complete practice in regard to Mexico, through any apprehension that the United States will prove unfaithful to the principles and policy in that respect which, on their behalf, it has been my duty to maintain in this now very lengthened correspondence. The practice of this government, from its beginning, is a guarantee to all nations of the respect of the American people for the free sover-

eignty of the people in every other state. We received the instruction from Washington. We applied it sternly in our early intercourse even with France. The same principle and practice have been uniformly inculcated by all our statesmen, interpreted by all our jurists, maintained by all our Congresses, and acquiesced in without practical dissent on all occasions by the American people. It is in reality the chief element of foreign intercourse in our history. Looking simply toward the point to which our attention has been steadily confined, the relief of the Mexican embarrassments without disturbing our relation with France, we shall be gratified when the Emperor shall give to us, either through the channel of your esteemed correspondence or otherwise, definitive information of the time when French military operations may be expected to cease in Mexico.

Here I might perhaps properly conclude this note. Some obscurity, however, might be supposed to rest upon the character of the principle of non-intervention, which we are authorized to suppose is now agreed upon between the United States and France as a rule for their future government in regard to Mexico. I shall, therefore, reproduce on this occasion, by way of illustration, some of the forms in which that principle has been maintained by us in our previous intercourse with France. In 1861, when alluding to the possibility that the Emperor might be invoked by rebel emissaries from the United States to intervene in our civil war, I observed: "The Emperor of France has given abundant proofs that he considers the people in every country the rightful source of authority, and that its only legitimate objects are their safety, freedom, and welfare."

I wrote, also, on the same occasion, these words to Mr. Dayton: "I have thus, under the President's direction, placed before you a simple, unexaggerated, and dispassionate statement of the origin, nature, and purpose of the contest in which the United States are now involved. I have done so only for the purpose of deducing from it the arguments you will find it necessary to employ in opposing the application of the so-called Confederate States to the government of his Majesty the Emperor for a recognition of their independence and sovereignty. The President neither expects nor desires any intervention, or even any favor, from the government of France, or any other, in this emergency. Whatever else he may consent to do, he will never invoke or even admit foreign interference or influence in this or any other controversy in which the government of the United States may be engaged with any portion of the American people.

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"Foreign intervention would oblige us to treat those who should yield it as allies of the insurrectionary party, and to carry on the war against them as enemies.

"However other European powers may mistake, his Majesty is the last one of those sovereigns to misapprehend the nature of this controversy. He knows that the revolution of 1776, in this country, was a successful contest of the great American idea of free, popular government against resisting prejudices and errors. He knows that the conflict awakened the sympathies of mankind, and that ultimately the triumph of that idea has been hailed by all European nations. He knows at what cost European nations for a time resisted the progress of that idea, and, perhaps, is not unwilling to confess how much France, especially, has profited by it. He will not fail to recognize the presence of that one great idea in the present conflict, nor will he mistake the side on which it will be found. It is, in short, the very principle of universal suffrage, with its claim of obedience to its decrees, on which the government of France is built, that is put in issue by the insurrection here, and is in this emergency to be vindicated and more effectually than ever established by the government of the United States."

In writing upon the same subject to Mr. Dayton, on the 30th of May, 1861, I said: "Nothing is wanting to that success except that foreign nations shall leave us, as is our right, to manage our own affairs in our own way. They, as well as we, can only suffer by their intervention. No one, we are sure, can judge

better than the Emperor of France how dangerous and deplorable would be the emergency that should intrude Europeans into the political contests of the American people."

In declining the offer of French mediation, on the 8th of June, 1861, I wrote to Mr. Dayton: "The present paramount duty of the government is to save the integrity of the American Union. Absolute, self-sustaining independence is the first and most indispensable element of national existence. This is a republican nation; all its domestic affairs must be conducted and even adjusted in constitutional forms, and upon constitutional, republican principles. This is an American nation, and its internal affairs must not only be conducted with reference to its peculiar continental position, but by and through American agencies alone."

On the 1st of August, 1862, Mr. Adams was instructed by this government in the following words: "Did the European states which found and occupied this continent almost without effort then understand its real destiny and purposes? Have they ever yet fully understood and accepted them? Has anything but disappointment upon disappointment and disaster upon disaster resulted from their misapprehensions? After near four hundred years of such disappointments and disasters, is the way of Providence in regard to America still so mysterious that it cannot be understood and confessed? Columbus, it was said, had given a new world to the kingdoms of Castile and Leon. What has become of the sovereignty of Spain in America? Richelieu occupied and fortified a large portion of the continent, extending from the Gulf of Mexico to the straits of Belle Isle. Does France yet retain that important appendage to the crown of her sovereign? Great Britain acquired a dominion here surpassing by a hundred-fold in length and breadth the native realm. Has not a large portion of it been already formally resigned? To whom have those vast dominions, with those founded by the Portuguese, the Dutch, and the Swedes, been resigned but to American nations, the growth of European colonists and exiles, who have come hither, bringing with them the arts, the civilization, and the virtues of Europe? Has not the change been beneficial to society on this continent? Has it not been more beneficial even to Europe itself than continued European domination, if it had been possible, could have been? The American nations which have grown up here are free and self-governing. They have made themselves so from inherent vigor and obedience to absolute necessity. Is it possible for European states to plunge them again into a colonial state and hold them there? Would it be desirable for them and for Europe, if it were possible? The balance of power among the nations of Europe is maintained not without numerous strong armies and frequent conflicts, while the sphere of political ambition there is bounded by the ocean which surrounds that continent. Would it be possible to maintain it at all, if this vast continent, with all its populations, their resources, and their forces, should once again be brought within that sphere?

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"On the contrary of all these suppositions, is it not manifest that these American nations were called into existence to be the home of freemen; that the states of Europe have been intrusted by Providence with their tutelage, but that tutelage and all its responsibilities and powers are necessarily withdrawn to the relief and benefit of the parties and of mankind, when these parties become able to choose their own system of government, and to make and administer their own laws? If they err in this choice, or in the conduct of their affairs, it will be found wise to leave them, like all other states, the privilege and responsibility of detecting and correcting the error, by which they are, of course, the principal sufferers."

On the 8th of May, 1862, Mr. Dayton was instructed to express to Mr. Thouvenel "the desire of the United States that peaceful relations may soon

be restored between France and Mexico upon a basis just to both parties and favorable to the independence and sovereignty of the people of Mexico, which is equally the interest of France and all other enlightened nations."

On the 21st of June, 1862, Mr. Dayton was authorized to speak on behalf of the United States concerning the condition of Mexico in these words: "France has a right to make war against Mexico, and to determine for herself the cause. We have a right to insist that France shall not improve the war she makes to raise up in Mexico an anti-republican or anti-American government, or to maintain such a government there."

Accept, sir, a renewed assurance of my high consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

The minister of foreign affairs to the French minister in Washington.

PARIS, *April* 5, 1866.

SIR: I have read, with all the attention which it deserves, the answer of the Secretary of State to my despatch of the 9th of January last. The scrupulous care with which Mr. Seward has pleased to analyze that despatch, and the extended considerations upon which he has entered to define, in regard to the exposé which I have made of the conduct of France in the affairs of Mexico, the doctrines which are the basis of the international policy of the United States, bear witness in our eyes of the interest which the cabinet of Washington attaches to putting aside all misapprehension.

We find therein the evidence of its desire to cause the sentiments of amity which the traditions of a long alliance have cemented between our two countries to prevail over the accidental divergencies, often inevitable, in the movement of affairs and the relations of governments. It is in this disposition that we have appreciated the communication which the Secretary of State has addressed to you, the 12th of January last. I will not follow Mr. Seward in the developments he has given to the exposition of the principles which direct the policy of the American Union. It does not appear to me opportune or profitable to prolong, on points of doctrine or of history, a discussion, where we may differ in opinion from the government of the United States, without danger to the interests of the two countries. I think it better to serve those interests by abstaining from discussing assertions—in my opinion very contestable—in order to take action on assurances which may contribute to facilitate our understanding.

We never hesitate to offer to our friends the explanations they ask from us, and we hasten to give to the cabinet of Washington all those which may enlighten it on the purpose we are pursuing in Mexico, and on the loyalty of our intentions. We have said to it, at the same time, that the certainty we should acquire of its resolution to observe in regard to that country, after our departure, a policy of non-intervention, would hasten the moment when it would be possible for us, without compromising the interests which led us there, to withdraw our troops, and put an end to an occupation, the duration of which we are sincerely desirous to abridge. In his despatch of the 12th February last Mr. Seward calls to mind, on his part, that the government of the United States has conformed during the whole course of its history to the rule of conduct which it received from Washington, by practicing invariably the principle of non-intervention, and adds that nothing justifies the apprehension that it should show itself unfaithful in what may concern Mexico. We receive this assurance with entire confidence, and we find therein a sufficient guarantee not any longer to delay the adoption of measures intended to prepare for the return of our army. The Emperor has decided that the French troops shall evacuate Mexico in

three detachments: the first being intended to depart in the month of November, 1866; the second in March, 1867; and the third in the month of November of the same year.

You will please to communicate this decision officially to the Secretary of State.

Receive, marquis, the assurance of my high consideration.

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

Drouyn de Lhuys to M. Dano, French minister in Mexico.

PARIS, *August* 14, 1865.

SIR: I am in receipt of your despatches up to the 10th of July. What you write concerning our claims attracted my attention in a most particular manner. You were right in judging that the necessity which existed for a speedy settlement with our countrymen would prompt us to abate in some measure our legitimate demands.

I am of opinion myself that the settlement in round figures, which you have proposed for adoption to the government of Maximilian, would be on the whole advantageous to our citizens, and, of course, acceptable to us. For this reason I would request you to insist in the most urgent manner in order to obtain, without delay, the adherence of the Mexican government to the plan of settlement which you have arranged.

Receive, &c.

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

The French minister in Mexico to the minister of foreign affairs.

MEXICO, *September* 28, 1865.

EXCELLENCY: I have received the despatch which you did me the honor to address me on the 14th of August last.

Your excellency having thought fit to approve the settlement in a lump which I proposed for adoption to the government of the emperor Maximilian, in order to arrive at a speedy conclusion of this business relating to French claims, I have resumed, with renewed activity, this important negotiation, which, however, I had not for one moment let out of sight.

I have this day the satisfaction of being able to announce that my efforts have not been altogether fruitless, and that I signed yesterday an agreement which, if I mistake not, will satisfy every interest at stake in this matter.

Be pleased to accept, &c.

DANO.

Certain modifications in form having become necessary, the ratification of the above mentioned agreement was delayed some time. The principal points in it, however, are set forth below. According to this plan the total indemnity due to France for injuries done to the persons and property of her citizens by Mexican governments or agents is fixed in bulk at the sum of forty millions of francs. This amount is to be paid in Mexican bonds, at par, and the French government is to divide these among its citizens who have claims, according to its own judgment of what is proper and convenient. The French government has already in hand, as trustee, a payment on account amounting to twelve millions of francs in bonds of the first Mexican loan, which was negotiated in Paris at sixty-three. These twelve millions should represent, at par, the sum of sixteen millions four

hundred and forty thousand francs. The remaining twenty-three millions five hundred and sixty thousand francs shall be paid in bonds of the same issue, at par, through the Mexican financial commission established at Paris. After having delivered the bonds for this amount of forty millions of francs, the Mexican government is to be considered as free from all liability as regards the claims of Frenchmen that shall have been presented up to that date; and the French government binds itself not to intervene in favor of any claims that may be presented thereafter for past damages. As a consequence of this settlement article twelve of the agreement signed at Miramar on the 18th of April, 1864, is abrogated in so far as it relates to French claims.

The minister of foreign affairs to the French minister in Mexico.

PARIS, *November* 14, 1865.

SIR: I have laid before the council of ministers the plan of settlement which you transmitted in your despatch of September 28, and it was made the subject of special deliberation. Two questions were raised and discussed in succession, namely: the amount of our indemnity, and the manner of payment requisite. When the government of the Emperor decided upon accepting a settlement in the lump of French claims, Marshal Bazaine was instructed to demand for that object of the Mexican government the remittance of fifty millions of francs in bonds of the second Mexican loan. These were to be added to the twelve millions of bonds (loan of 1864) already in our hands, under the terms of the Miramar agreement.

The sum required by us at this time is about the amount which the French commission, appointed afterwards by yourself to examine the question, pointed out as required to indemnify our countrymen in an equitable manner, say $12,754,366. The plan of settlement which you have signed with M. César fixes the total amount of indemnity allowed our countrymen at only forty millions of francs, payable in Mexican bonds at par; and in these forty millions are included the twelve millions already in our hands. There is, then, a wide difference between the figure which you have accepted and what we considered ourselves justifiable in claiming. After having, however, weighed carefully the motives that have prompted you to make this amount the basis of a settlement, the government of the Emperor has approved your determination.

His majesty the emperor Maximilian, having shown his readiness, on his side, to agree to the figure of forty millions of francs, and your private information warranting you in the belief that that amount might, in the last resort, suffice for the indemnification of our countrymen, it has appeared more conformable to French interests that a solution should be hastened by even abating, in some measure, our legitimate demands, rather than by maintaining them, and thus delay still longer the settlement for which our citizens have waited so long.

In accepting the amount of indemnity set down in your plan of settlement, we could not, however, agree to the manner of payment stipulated therein. Indeed, there would be a difficulty for the Mexican government to fulfil the agreement in the manner prescribed. According to the terms proposed, the twenty-three millions five hundred and sixty thousand francs, which would have to be liquidated in order to complete the forty millions of indemnification, are to be remitted in bonds of the first loan, at par, by the Mexican commission of finances in Paris.

Now the following circumstances render the literal execution of this clause impracticable at present; for while the French treasury, making use of the privilege granted to it at the time the second loan was negotiated, converted the bonds that had been delivered in pursuance of the Miramar treaty into se-

curities similar to those that had been emitted in 1863, and afterwards negotiated them, the Mexican commission likewise took advantage of the same occasion to act in like manner with the bonds of the 1864 loan that remained in its hands. At the present time, then, that commission has not a single bond of the first loan in its possession to use in fulfilment of the plan now under consideration. The Mexican government should already be aware of this fact, because, at the time, it was notified of the transaction. Hence a new combination must be substituted for the one contemplated in the present plan of settlement. As the conversion of bonds of the first loan was optional, it is more than probable that the five hundred thousand bonds of the second issue will not be all used, because a number of the holders of the 1864 six-per-cents will fail to take advantage of the privilege granted them. Hence the minister of finances thinks that there will remain a sufficient quantity of unemployed bonds of the new issue to meet the engagements entered into by the Mexican government in this plan of settlement with us. It is, consequently, in bonds of this second issue, and not in those of the first loan (as prescribed by the terms of the plan) that the 23,560,000 francs specified in article four can be remitted; and, in this state of the case, I pray you to request that the necessary orders be forwarded to the Mexican commission of finances in Paris, so that it may hand over to us so much of the remainder of these new bonds as may be necessary to cover the amount above stated.

Receive, &c.

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

The French minister in Mexico to the minister of foreign affairs.

MEXICO, *December* 28, 1865.

EXCELLENCY: The despatch which you did me the honor of writing to me on the 14th of last November came to hand on the 13th instant.

On the same day I took active measures to have the agreement, which I signed for the settlement of our claims, modified in what relates to the kind of bonds payable to our countrymen. At first I met with lively opposition. The emperor and M. de Castillo maintained (what is fact) that the settlement with bonds of the second issue in place of those of the first would be more onerous to the Mexican treasury, as the conversion of the first bonds into those of the second issue and the settlement of the differences in premium had occasioned pretty considerable outlays. However, I manifested so much urgency that I obtained my demand on the following day. I made them understand that it was necessary to place the Emperor Napoleon and his government in a position to announce before the French chambers that the matter of French claims upon Mexico is most decidedly settled. In order that there could be no doubt upon the subject, and that the concession which I asked should have a decidedly official character, I brought about an exchange of notes with M. de Castillo upon the matter.

The clause in accordance with which the sum of 23,560,000 francs, in bonds of the first loan at par, were to be delivered to us, having become impracticable on account of the conversion of said first loan, it remains settled that we are to receive that amount in such bonds of the second issue as remain unemployed.

The Mexican minister of foreign affairs has given instructions in this sense to the Mexican minister at Paris, and the Mexican commission of finances there is to hand over the bonds as soon as the agreement shall have been ratified.

I shall await the instructions of your excellency to know what changes are to be made in the wording of the agreement. Please to accept, &c.

DANO.

The French minister in Mexico to the minister of foreign affairs.

MEXICO, *January* 18, 1866.

EXCELLENCY: You are aware that I have already obtained from the Mexican government the stipulation that our claims shall be paid in bonds of the second series, second loan. The Mexican legation at Paris has received advices to the same effect, but the under-secretary of finances had not received the order to deliver the bonds to us. According to him they are not to be delivered until after the agreement shall have been officially ratified. I have opposed this view, which is calculated to cause further delays.

As both governments are agreed regarding the alterations to be made in the plan of settlement, it should be considered as morally ratified. M. César being now absent, the emperor has sent me from Chapultepec a telegram, in which he notifies me that M. Langlais is authorized to give the necessary orders to the Mexican commission of finances at Paris. I sent the telegram to our counsellor of state on this Mexican mission, (M Langlais,) but he, as I supposed he would, considers himself unauthorized to give any orders, seeing that he bears no official character.

However, I have asked him to write to M. Fould, or to M. de Germiny, and to annex the telegram to his letter, in order to show what were the emperor Maximilian's intentions. To-morrow I shall try to get M. de Castillo to have orders telegraphed for the formal delivery of the bonds. Please to accept, &c.

DANO.

The French minister in Mexico to the minister of foreign affairs.

MEXICO, *February* 9, 1866.

EXCELLENCY: M. de Castillo informs me that instructions are about to be forwarded for the delivery to you, by the Mexican commission of finances in Paris, of 46,120 bonds of the second series, second loan, representing the balance of our indemnity, twenty-three million five hundred and sixty thousand francs. The minister of foreign affairs requests, at the same time, that the agreement of September 27 be ratified by the Emperor of the French, so that it may afterwards pass through the same formality at the hands of the emperor Maximilian, after the necessary alterations shall have been made in the wording of certain articles of said agreement. Please to accept, &c.

DANO.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys to M. Dano, minister of France to Mexico.

PARIS, *January* 14, 1866.

SIR: The situation in which we are placed in our relations with Mexico cannot be prolonged. We are compelled by circumstances to take a final resolution, and of which the Emperor has directed me to acquaint you.

At the beginning, our expedition had no other object than the recovery of our debt, and to obtain such reparation as was due to our fellow-citizens. If, however, we have deemed it desirable to grant our assistance to a nation which was seeking a regular government, order and welfare; if, taking thought for our legitimate interests, we have countenanced a prince who devoted himself to this generous task, our efforts had to be confined within the precise limits which the convention of Miramar attempted to determine. Reciprocal arrangements laid down in this act fixed the terms on which we were allowed to use the forces of France in consolidating a friendly government. It would be superfluous

to insist upon the causes which make it impossible for the court of Mexico, notwithstanding its intended uprightness, to fulfil these conditions in the future. On the one hand, our demand for more credit proved fruitless; on the other, we cannot go outside of stipulations and take exclusive charge of the Mexican government—provide with our army for its defence, and with our finances for its administrative service. The advances we have more than once made cannot be renewed, and the Emperor will ask no new sacrifices from France.

Our occupation, therefore, must be brought to an end, and we must prepare ourselves for that result without delay. The Emperor, sir, commissions you to agree upon it with his august ally as soon as a discussion, in which Marshal Bazaine will naturally be called to participate, shall have determined how to secure, as much as possible, the interests of the Mexican government, the safety of our debt, and the claims of our fellow-citizens. The desire of his Majesty is that the evacuation should begin during the coming fall.

Have the kindness, sir, to communicate this despatch to his excellency the minister of foreign affairs, and to let him have a copy of it. I have commissioned M. le Baron Saillard to add verbally all necessary explanation, and to bring me back speedily your answer. You will let me know the final arrangements you conclude upon.

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys to M. Dano, minister of France to Mexico.

PARIS, *January* 15, 1866.

SIR: I think it necessary to add some explanations upon the subject to which my despatch of yesterday refers.

The settlement of our claims resulting from the convention you signed in Mexico, on the 27th of September, 1865, and which has received the approval of his Majesty, secures to our fellow-citizens satisfaction for the damages they have sustained. No doubt this convention will be faithfully executed; thus will the most essential object of our expedition be obtained, and redress will be secured for the grievances which have compelled us to take up arms.

I need not recall the considerations by which we were induced, nor indeed to lose sight of the object of our expedition, but to avail ourselves of it to offer to Mexico the benefits of a political regeneration. This idea, the legitimacy and disinterestedness of which we reassert, has determined the support we have lent to the courageous undertaking of emperor Maximilian. Decided as we were to countenance his efforts, we had, however, to adjust the conditions of our co-operation to the measure of the French interests, which were, after all, our first consideration.

The desire of our far-sighted Emperor has been to defend his government against the allurements of a generous idea, by defining the nature and by limiting beforehand the extent of the aid we were allowed to bestow. We have, at the same time, been obliged to stipulate for the equivalent which we were to receive, and to fix the quota and the payment of the sums destined to defray our expenses. Such was the object of the convention of Miramar, which was to remain the rule of our reciprocal duties and rights.

It would be uninteresting to revert to the circumstances which prevented the Mexican government from fulfilling the obligations it had assumed by this act, and which threaten to lay upon our shoulders, without any of the promised compensations, the charge of the new empire. I need not refer to the copious observations to be found on this subject in my correspondence with the legation of the Emperor, nor seek for the causes of a situation which I feel called upon to explain. The contract by which we were bound to the Mexican government having been broken, we are released from the obligations we had assumed.

Nevertheless, sir, we might not have taken advantage of the failure of the Mexican government in fulfilling the conditions of the treaty of Miramar to declare ourselves discharged from our obligations, if we had not been driven to it. The Mexican government is unable to furnish the financial resources indispensable to the keeping up our military establishment, and we have even been asked to take charge of most of the expenses of its home administration. These difficulties are not new, and we have repeatedly attempted to provide for them by facilitating loans which have put at the disposal of Mexico considerable amounts of money. But now every attempt to borrow has been found fruitless. What, then, have we to do in presence of the ascertained deficiency of the Mexican exchequer and of the charges its penurious circumstances have laid upon us? Our budget does not give us the means of supplying this deficit. Mexico being unable to pay for the troops we are keeping upon its territory, it would be impossible for us to maintain them there. As to asking from our country new supplies to this end, I have already explained to you our views on that subject. As I told you, public opinion has pronounced with an authority from which there is no appeal that the limit of the sacrifices has been reached.

France would refuse to add anything to them, and the Emperor will not ask her. Far be it from me to doubt the efforts made by the emperor Maximilian and by his government. The emperor has resolutely approached the difficulties inherent in all new establishments, difficulties which the condition of Mexico rendered perhaps still more arduous. His energy has been felt everywhere, and if he has not been allowed to reorganize the country as he wished, and as fast as he intended, nevertheless the results actually achieved indicate the activity and zeal he has shown. In the provinces as well as in the capital, wherever the emperor and the empress, the courageous associate of her august husband, have been enabled to make themselves known personally, the reception of the people testifies to the confidence they feel and the hopes they build upon the strengthening of the empire. The emperor himself has proclaimed that civil war is at an end, if resistance to his authority could deserve such a name.

This condition of affairs, encouraging in so many respects, leads me to ask if the well-understood interests of the emperor Maximilian do not agree with the necessities of our own position? Among all the reproaches put forward by the liberals in the interior and by adversaries outside, the most dangerous, doubtless, is the charge that the newly established government is sustained by foreign forces. The votes of the Mexicans have undoubtedly answered this imputation; it still exists, however, and it is easy to understand how useful it would be for the empire to deprive its adversaries of this argument.

At a time when these various considerations constrain us to look upon the approaching end of our military occupation, the government of the emperor, in its solicitude for the glorious work he has begun, had to take into account the financial situation of Mexico. This situation is grave, but not desperate. The Mexican empire can, if energetic and courageous, firm and consistent, triumph over difficulties in its way; but success depends on these conditions. This is the conviction we have derived from an attentive and conscientious examination of its obligations and resources. You will endeavor to make them understood by the emperor Maximilian and by his government.

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys to the minister of France in Mexico.

PARIS, *February* 16, 1866.

SIR: At the date of this despatch M. Saillard must have arrived in Mexico. The instructions of the government of the Emperor are therefore known to you. His Majesty himself has taken care, in his opening speech to the legislature, to

inform the great bodies of the state of his resolution. To-day I have but to reiterate the general directions contained in my communications of the 14th and 15th of January, and to ask you to settle without delay with the Mexican government the conditions necessary to accomplish the views of the Emperor.

The desire of his Majesty, you know, is to begin the evacuation of Mexico next fall, and to bring it to an end as soon as possible. You will have to see Marshal Bazaine, so as to agree upon the successive terms of the evacuation with the emperor Maximilian.

I cannot develop here the various considerations which must be kept in mind in the direction of this operation. Those which are purely military and technical in their nature belong to the commander-in-chief; the others, more political in their character, are submitted to your judgment, enlightened by your perfect knowledge of the circumstances and of the necessities they impose.

It is equally important, sir, to make up a statement of the financial situation, and to fix on the guarantees required for the security of our debt. The provisions of the treaty of Miramar not having been realized, it is necessary to avert to other combinations to secure the reimbursement of our advances, and at the same time provide, in the interest of the Mexican credit, for the regular arrears of the debt of 1864 and 1865. Mr. Langlais will receive, by this mail, from the minister of finances, detailed instructions, which he will communicate to you. You will have to consult with him so as to secure their execution.

The government of the Emperor thinks that the simplest and least onerous arrangement for the Mexican government would be to place in our hands the custom-houses of Vera Cruz and Tampico, or any others which may be deemed more convenient. Half the receipts would be assigned to us and applied, a portion to the payment of the three per cent. interest of our debt, estimated at $230,000,060, the other as a partial guarantee of the interest due to the holders of the loan of 1864 and 1865. It is to be hoped that, under our administrative care, these custom-houses will still furnish, in addition to the deduction agreed to, an important revenue. You will have to make the necessary arrangements with the Mexican cabinet to be put in possession of the receipts of these custom-houses.

These points once settled, and the French interests secured, the government of the Emperor will nevertheless continue to testify all those sympathies with which the sovereign of Mexico, and the generous task to which he has devoted himself, inspire his Majesty. Be pleased, sir, to give, in the name of his Majesty, this assurance to the emperor Maximilian.

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

M. Dano, minister of France to Mexico, to the minister of foreign affairs in Mexico.

CITY OF MEXICO, *March* 9, 1866.

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE: I have received the despatches your excellency has favored me with on the 14th and 15th of January.

I have to inform you that the well-settled intention of the Emperor is to begin the evacuation towards fall. I am at the service of the emperor Maximilian in order to fix this term definitely, in accordance with the instructions I have received. Meanwhile Marshal Bazaine is engaged in measures calculated to secure, so far as possible, all unsettled interests.

Your excellency is already acquainted with the intention of the commander-in-chief of the army. The evacuation, which is to begin in the month of November next, will end during the fall of 1867, that is to say, will be completely accomplished in eighteen months.

DANO.

[Newspaper comments.—From L'Estafette, of Mexico city.]

FRENCH CLAIMS.

The publication of the diplomatic documents relating to the convention of September 27 has stirred up our whole French population. We are unwilling to pass a hasty judgment upon a matter of so much weight; and, for this reason, we will seek for enlightenment from parties better versed than ourselves in financial affairs before we attempt to treat a subject that interests so large a number of our fellow-countrymen. At present, we can do no more than present to our readers some general considerations.

We have been asked, "Does this convention cover all claims; and is the sum of forty millions of francs, set apart in a lump for claimants, intended to satisfy all the legitimate claims sanctioned by the commission?" To this we answer unhesitatingly and upon official authority that this sum of forty millions is to cover merely claims anterior to September 27, 1865 As to those which have been presented since or may yet be handed in a new settlement is to be made.

The question which gives most concern, however, is to know whether the present settlement can seriously be regarded as an acceptable one, when it brings no other security than bonds that are becoming discredited. These bonds of the second loan were issued at three hundred and forty francs; they are to-day quoted at one hundred and thirty-nine; in six months they will fall to one hundred, and later to fifty. If it comes to this the twenty-three millions spoken of in these official documents will be a payment made in derision—a financial puff of smoke. It would be, in the end, equivalent to about ten or twelve per cent. on the stipulated amount. Hence we may cast all anxiety aside, for such a result is simply impossible. The second Mexican loan has been virtually guaranteed by the French government; for it was at the recommendation of the minister of finances and of the general and local revenue officers of the empire that six thousand families, composed of mechanics, workmen, and farmers, invested their savings in these bonds thus officially patronized. We may then rest assured that the French government remains responsible for the payment of this loan, and we know from good authority that, far from shirking the responsibility, it is considering the expediency of converting the lottery loan into French three per cents., and that the conversion will be made before six months. From this point of view the settlement would present a serious aspect, and would be satisfactory. Some further light, however, should be thrown upon this point.

Many of our fellow-countrymen have been considering the expediency of calling a meeting of claimants to take the matter calmly into consideration. We shall announce the day, the hour, and place of the meeting when we shall have learned them.

The minister of foreign affairs to the minister of France in Mexico.

PARIS, *August* 14, 1865.

SIR: Your despatches up to the 10th of July have been received. My attention was particularly directed to what you said in regard to our claims. You were right in thinking that we might diverge from our emergencies to determine the fate of our citizens as soon as possible.

I therefore consider the general arrangement you propose to the government of Maximilian would be beneficial to our citizens, and consequently acceptable to us. I accordingly invite you to insist upon the reception of your arrangement by the Mexican government.

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

The French minister in Mexico to the minister of foreign affairs.

MEXICO, *September* 28, 1865.

SIR: Your despatch of the 14th of August has been received.

As you approve of my plan to settle the French claims which was made to the government of the emperor Maximilian, I will resume the important negotiation with renewed activity.

I am pleased to inform you that my efforts have not been vain, and that I signed a convention yesterday, the 2d, which will satisfy all parties interested, unless I am very much mistaken.

DANO.

The modifications of the convention of the 27th of September, 1865, having delayed its ratification, we will merely set down the principal dispositions of that diplomatic act.

The sum total of indemnity due to France for wrongs to its citizens in property or person by the Mexican governments or their agents is fixed at forty millions of francs.

That sum shall be paid by drafts on the revenue at par, and the French government shall portion it among its citizens as it may think proper.

The French government has on deposit already a sum of twelve millions of francs, on account, in bonds of the first Paris loan, issued at six per cent., representing a sum of sixteen million one hundred and forty thousand francs. The remaining twenty-three million five hundred and sixty thousand francs shall be delivered in bonds of the same kind at par by the Mexican committee of finance established in Paris.

After the forty millions of francs shall have been paid, the Mexican government shall be considered as free from all responsibility to the French for claims till now, and the French government agrees not to interfere in any to be made hereafter.

In consequence of the execution of this convention, article 12 of the Miramar convention, made on the 10th of April, 1864, is repealed, as far as French claims are concerned.

The minister of foreign affairs to the French minister in Mexico.

PARIS, *November* 14, 1865.

SIR: I have reported your plan for a convention to settle French claims, which was sent with your despatch of the 28th of September, to the council of ministers for particular consideration. The two important parts—the amount of indemnity and the mode of payment—have been separately debated.

When the government of the Emperor decided upon a consolidation of citizens' claims, Marshal Bazaine was instructed to demand the sum of fifty millions of francs from Mexico of the second loan, to be added to the twelve millions of 1864, already in our hands, in accordance with the convention of Miramar.

What we now ask is about the same sum, fixed by the commissioners as sufficient to liquidate the claims of our citizens, namely, $12,754,366. Your convention with Mr. César makes the sum of the claims only forty millions of francs, including the twelve millions already in our hands. That makes a considerable difference between the sum you accept and what we think we have a right to claim; but, after due consideration, the government of the Emperor approves your resolution.

As his majesty, the emperor Maximilian, seems disposed to accept the forty

millions, and you think it sufficient indemnity for our citizens, and as it is certainly to their interests to settle the business, even if we have to abate our demands, it is agreed to accept those proposals; but, in accepting the amount, we do not accept the mode of payment proposed.

In fact, the Mexican government cannot pay according to the demands of the convention. By the terms of that document the 23,560,000 francs remainder, with the twelve millions already in our hands, were to have been paid to us in titles of the first loan, at par, by the Mexican finance committee in Paris. Now, the following circumstances make the execution of that clause impossible at the present time.

While the French treasury was changing the titles of the first loan into obligations similar to those issued in 1865, the committee of Mexican finance took advantage of the same opportunity to dispose of the remaining titles of 1864. So now the committee has no more of those titles in its possession to fill the requisitions of the convention. The Mexican government ought to consider this, as notice has already been given of it. A new combination must, therefore, be substituted.

As the plan of conversion of the titles of the first loan is feasible, it is more than probable that the five hundred obligations of the second series will not all have been disposed of, since a certain number of the holders of the '64 six-percents will not use the power granted to them.

The minister of finance thinks there will remain a sufficient number of the new obligations to pay our claims against Mexico. The 23,560,000 francs, mentioned in article 4, may, therefore, be paid in obligations of the second series, and I beg you to ask that these obligations be sent to the Mexican finance committee in Paris to pay the above amount specified.

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

The French minister in Mexico to the minister of foreign affairs.

SIR: Your despatch of the 14th of November last reached me on the 13th instant. I immediately set about the modification of the convention in regard to titles for our citizens. At first I met with strong opposition. The emperor and Mr. Castillo asserted that the remission of obligations similar to those of the second loan, instead of the first, would be more onerous to the Mexican treasury, as the expenses of negotiation were greater. But I was so urgent I succeeded the next day. I convinced them of the necessity of putting the Emperor Napoleon and his government in a condition to say to the French chambers that the terms of the claims had been arranged.

To place it beyond doubt, and to give an official character to the affair, I exchanged notes with Mr. Castillo on the subject.

The clause by which 23,560,000 francs in titles of the first loan were to have been paid having been shown to be impossible, it was agreed to receive it in obligations of the second series, unappropriated.

The minister of affairs has instructed the Mexican minister in Paris in the particular, and the Mexican committee will remit the obligations as soon as the convention is ratified.

I will wait for your excellency to inform me what changes are to be made in the convention.

DANO.

The French minister in Mexico to the minister of foreign affairs.

MEXICO, *January* 18, 1866.

SIR: Your excellency already knows that I have induced the Mexican government to pay us in obligations of the second series of the last loan. The Mexican legation in Paris has been notified of it; but the under-secretary of state for finance has not yet issued the order for the titles, which he says cannot be done till the convention is officially ratified. I opposed the idea, as it would cause a greater delay.

The two governments having agreed upon the modifications necessary in the convention, it ought to be considered as morally ratified. Mr. César being absent, the emperor sends me a telegram from Chapultepec, informing me that Mr. Langlais is empowered to give the necessary orders to the Mexican finance committee. I sent the telegram to the state counsellor, who says he is not authorized to order anything, as he has no official character.

I then requested him to write to Mr. Fould or Mr. Germiny, enclosing the telegram containing the emperor's intentions. To-morrow I will try to send the formal order to remit the titles, by telegraph, through Mr. Castillo.

DANO.

The minister of France in Mexico to the minister of foreign affairs.

MEXICO, *February* 9, 1866.

SIR: Mr. Castillo informs me that the Mexican finance committee in Paris will be instructed to deliver 46,120 obligations of the second series, representing the 23,560,000 francs, to pay our indemnities, into our hands.

The minister of foreign affairs exacts of me, at the same time, that the convention of the 27th of September be ratified by the Emperor of the French, to be afterwards subjected to the same formality by the emperor Maximilian, as soon as the proper modifications have been made in it.

DANO.

[From the Moniteur Universel, the official paper of the French Empire, No. 165, page 746.—Paris, June 14, 1866.]

LEGISLATIVE BODY.

Session of Wednesday, June 13, 1866.

His excellency Count Walewski presiding.

The PRESIDENT. Mr. Jules Favre has the floor.

Mr. FAVRE. The recent distribution in the chamber of documents explaining our situation in Mexico, compels us to examine the conduct of the government in the affair, and the resolutions it proposes to adopt.

This obligation is the more urgent, as the present disturbances in Europe may injure our honor, our safety, or our repose. It is, therefore, necessary to determine what is to be done in an expedition that might embarrass us seriously, in case of European conflicts.

For myself, I will not go into a minute examination of all the difficulties of the expedition. I have given my opinion often before, and it has not changed lately. The time has not yet arrived when we can speak the whole truth. As long as our troops are engaged in Mexico we must suspend judgment. But what seems to me most proper at present, is to find out what has been done

since we met last, and what remains to be done. The government plan, though much like what we have always advised, cannot receive our complete approbation, and for very many reasons.

The declarations of the government, which you once applauded, were full of promises, and you opposed everything that did not accord with them, accusing those who dared to contest them as narrow-minded pessimists, incapable of comprehending generous conceptions and vast designs. Alas, gentlemen, the reality discovered by the government has destroyed those sad fictions.

I promised to be moderate, and I will keep my word. On looking over the documents circulated among you, I reject the first. The best way to treat that is to keep silence. Yet, gentlemen, the government is obliged to accept that document, and to confess that we are compelled to give up Mexico. But a different light is thrown upon the condition of affairs in that country.

You remember, from the beginning, it has always been predicted that the expedition would be successful; but, in obtaining the approbation of the chamber, I regret that the truth was not revealed. [Murmurs by the majority.]

I will not go into a minute examination, as I said. You remember the minister of state's declarations upon the relations of France and Maximilian, when a convention united them. You remember the weekly bulletins announcing the enthusiasm in Mexico for the new sovereign, and of the dispersion of all bands opposed to the new rule. These points will be discussed hereafter; I now confine myself to more recent occurrences.

Last year, when we dared to express our want of confidence, we were told that the policy we were attacking was beyond our comprehension. It would bring glory to France and her sovereign; and the minister of state concluded in these words on the 27th January, 1864:

"And now let me give you my entire mind. Passion will die, questions of gain will be lost sight of in the public prosperity, and truth will shake off her shackles for the good of posterity. If you then look back upon our old debates and squabbles, you will exclaim, That was a man of genius, who had the courage to open new sources of prosperity to the nation, of which he was the chief, in spite of resistance, obstacles, and distrusts. He was the apostle of a bold policy, far-seeing and wise, whose views were not limited to the present generation, who understood the present and the future, who knew that the balance of power in Europe was not, as it used to be, on the Alps and Pyrences, on the Vistula or the Black sea." "But let it embrace the world, and if these great interests concern France, let her protect them by her flag. Yes, this will be a glorious page, and the historian who traces it will say to the assembled nation, as the sovereign has done: Distant expeditions, begun to revenge our honor, have ended in triumph." Such, gentlemen, is the history written by the firm and hardy hand of the minister of state.

By the side of this document we have another of no less importance. At the beginning of our labors, the Emperor spoke of Mexico as follows: "The new throne in Mexico is gaining strength; peace is extending; the immense resources are being developed; thanks to our soldiers, to the good sense of the Mexican population, and to the intelligence and energy of its sovereign." And these words were consecrated by some lines on the situation of the empire: "The results of our Mexican expedition in 1862 and 1863 have been consecrated in 1864 Under the shadow of the French flag, a regular government has been established in a country where anarchy and domestic quarrels have raged for half a century. The emperor Maximilian ascended the throne in the beginning of June, and, supported by our army, he is preparing an era of peace and prosperity for his new country."

This flattering panegyric was disturbed by the voice of a warrior, who led our victorious legions into Mexico. In the debate on the address, on the 11th of March, 1865, he said in the senate:

"Unfortunately everything is to be done over again in Mexico. Moral feeling is entirely depraved; there is no rule, no justice, no army, no spirit of nationality, no nothing." And the honorable marshal continues: "But it is not the nation's fault—the nation is kind, generous, proud, noble, and, as it is formed of Castilian blood, I do not despair of it."

These are attenuating circumstances to Mexico. The honorable gentleman had a patriotic indulgence for a country which he severely condemned by saying it lacked moral feeling, justice, &c., &c., and out of nothing something could be made.

Such was the state of affairs in 1865. Yet at that time there was trouble about the finances.

Though the people seemed willing to sustain the new throne, the enthusiasm was very expensive; 150 millions were spent in 1864 and 1865, and 250 millions more were demanded. You have not forgotten the loan undertaken by the government. We called the attention of the chamber to its significance at that time.

Aside from all political prejudice and high considerations, we ask ourselves, Is it possible that a loan of such onerous conditions can succeed? It is to be raised by lottery! The confidence of moneyed men is to be seduced by vulgar tricks. And such things are tolerated! You don't see the danger. Mexico is willing to borrow at such a high rate because she knows the debt cannot be paid!

One of my honorable colleagues, who had loyally discharged the duties of a private mission, who knew Mexico and had a right to speak of it, made a softening speech to this chamber not long ago. His discourse removed all trouble, and seemed to condemn all those who doubted the success of the new rule in Mexico. That speech helped the new loan.

That happened in April, 1865, and for the rest of the year we continued to ask for official information on Mexican affairs, and none came. The Moniteur only gave reports of this kind, after the arrival of each mail:

"All is quiet; but there are malcontents wherever our forces have not possession. Maximilian's popularity continues to increase. But our army is on the alert, and skirmishes are frequent."

Here is one important fact proclaimed by the Moniteur: "On the 2d of October, 1865, Juarez left the territory, and now there is but one ruler in Mexico." Soon after we get this from New York:

"In spite of the activity of Juarez's agents in this city, the cause of the ex-president may be regarded as lost. It is officially announced that Juarez has quitted the Mexican soil, given up his cause, and settled in the United States. The last Havana steamer brings the French news that the emperor Maximilian issued a proclamation on the 2d of October declaring that Don Benito Juarez, after a long contest, had at last yielded to the national will and quit Mexico."

How can Maximilian, the liberator of his country, reconcile this with the tyranny of Juarez, which required four years to put down? And now he announces that all who oppose him shall be shot! And he concludes the proclamation thus: "And all brigands hereafter pretending to be his partisans shall be considered as outlaws and treated as robbers."

The Moniteur continues:

"The New York correspondence of the 23d of October, which we publish below, gives some interesting details regarding the state of public opinion in the United States on the Mexican question."

The facts announced by the official paper are not true, except in regard to the proclamation of Maximilian, and his treatment of those opposed to him. Unfortunately, gentlemen, that much is true, and history will record the truth. But the untrue part is, that the rebels had not ceased to make opposition. Maximilian's

proclamation was dated the 2d of October, 1865. On the 16th of November, Marshal Bazaine wrote to Riva Palacio, of the centre Juarist army, asking an exchange of prisoners. It is useless to quote the letter, but it shows that the struggle is not over, as the Moniteur has announced to Europe. In November, 1865, the fighting continued, the loan had been effected, and the money was ready to be squandered in Mexico.

In September, 1865, though two hundred and fifty millions more had been subscribed, our citizens had not been indemnified, and the expedition, which was only to effect that, had already lasted four years. It is but proper to tell you here the amount of the claims against Mexico is only 750,000 francs.

So, gentlemen, we had four millions to claim, then twelve, and lastly sixty millions against Mexico. But in September, 1865, nothing was settled. Among the documents distributed among us, there is a despatch to which I will call your attention. In September, 1865, a treaty to fix the indemnity was concluded, and forty millions was the sum determined upon.

In my opinion, this was enough. I don't know what the commissioners have done with that forty millions. I think it is in drafts upon an empty treasury. At least the creditors have received no pay. Perhaps the government can tell us. It was right to make the arrangement, whether the money could be had or not. On page 30 of Mr. Dano's despatch, December 28, 1865, I see the emperor Maximilian objected to the settlement of the claims. Hear what the French chargé in Mexico says about it:

"At first I met with great opposition. The emperor and Mr. Castillo asserted that the remission of obligations similar to those of the second loan, instead of the first, would be more onerous to the Mexican treasury, as the expenses of negotiation were greater. But I was so urgent, I succeeded the next day. I convinced them of the necessity of putting the Emperor Napoleon and his government in a condition to say to the French chambers that the terms of the claims had been arranged."

So, forty millions have been appropriated to pay our citizens; but can the money be raised? That is the important question.

Now comes another consideration of no less importance. The minister of foreign affairs, the vigilant guardian of French interests, is naturally vexed at the diminution of our claims; but the debtor is about to fail, and the creditor must take what he can get. Here is what Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys said about it on the 14th of January, 1866:

"The first object of our expedition was the revindication of our credit and exaction of reparation due to our citizens. If, however, we see proper to help a people struggling for a stable government, and it is our interest to aid a prince who sacrifices himself to such a good cause, our help should be confined to particular limits, which the Miramar convention has prescribed. The reciprocal arrangements of that act have fixed the conditions under which France was to aid the consolidation of a friendly government. It would be superfluous to insist upon the motives that prevent Mexico from complying with those conditions.

"All appeal to credit is useless on one part; on the other we cannot undertake to pay the expenses of the Mexican government and defend it with our army and pay its civil officials."

This is a wonderful effect of the confidence placed in the prince, and the four hundred millions lent him by France to be engulfed in his ruinous sovereignty! We must support him by our blood, pay his army, his civil list—else he perishes. And the minister tells you this in his despatch of the 15th of January, 1866, which is very significant. He speaks of the convention of Miramar; he says it was proposed by Maximilian himself, a man whose imperial probity and political solidity was beyond suspicion, and he does not keep his word!

The minister adds: "Such was the object of the convention of Miramar, which was to regulate our rights and reciprocal duties. It would be useless

now to ask why the Mexican government cannot comply with the precepts of the act, and why we are called to bear the burden of the new establishment."

We told you the same last year, and the year before, and you grumbled. Now you listen because it is the minister who speaks.

"I will not dwell upon what I said in my correspondence with the legation of the Emperor; it is merely my duty to expose the actual situation. By law, in a bilateral contract, when one party fails to comply the other is released.

"The Mexican government cannot furnish the resources to sustain our army there, and it even asks us to pay its civil list! This is not new, as our frequent loans will show.

"Now what are we to do in this government bankruptcy? Our revenue will not suffice to supply the deficit. If Mexico cannot pay our troops in her service we cannot keep them there. Public opinion declares we have done all for Mexico we can do."

[Murmurs of applause around the speaker. Mr. Favre is called to order by the president, and then proceeds:]

I answer by facts, and those I quote will not be contradicted by this assembly, as they originated in it.

Now I have just said that the situation laid down by the minister of foreign affairs is not new. The embarrassments of the Mexican government have long been known, ever since the time of the first loan. It was well known at that time that the situation was bad, and to remedy it was the object of the loans. When Mr. Corta spoke on the loan, he said:

"The conviction I bring back from Mexico is, that all that is needed there is a regular government and time. It certainly has a fixed government now. Maximilian was carried in triumph from Vera Cruz to Mexico. But what the true sentiment of the people was in this ovation it is hard for a superficial observer to determine.

"In the eyes of the Indians, which are the majority, the emperor Maximilian was the man of prophecy, who came from the east, with blue eyes and golden hair, and the Indians hailed him as their liberator."

Mr. Corta continues on the financial question thus:

"At any rate the present budget, as the state council make it, is only $150,000,000 including the debt. So you see the Mexican government need not feel concerned about the foreign debt; it can be paid easily."

Now to pay that debt they had recourse to France, as their treasury was empty. Not only Mr. Corta acknowledges it, but the minister of state says:

"As to the Mexican finances, has not Mr. Corta's report enlightened the chamber in regard to the resources of the country?" A year after, on the 11th of April, 1865, a great change has taken place. Instead of financial prosperity, we find a distressing situation; instead of a prince with a redundant budget we find a man asking alms to pay his army and civil list. The minister continues: "Do not be concerned, gentlemen; Maximilian will assure the prosperity of the Mexican empire, and will furnish ample security to those who trust their money to his care."

I understand what is passing in the minds of my colleagues. I will only compare these facts with what the minister of foreign affairs said in January, 1866:

"These troubles are not new, and we have tried to alleviate them by facilitating loans."

Yes, that has been done, and you told France that Mexico was in a good condition, and lenders would run no risk of losing their money. A year has scarcely passed and you behold an empty treasury, an unpaid army, a bankrupt monarch. Under such circumstances I ask the chamber if we can be satisfied with the minister's despatch of the 15th of January, 1866?

He tells Mexico plainly that the treasury of France is no longer at its dis-

posal, that public opinion is opposed to more loans, and that Maximilian must get along alone. Here is what he says:

"While these different considerations oblige us to look to the end of our military occupation, the government of the Emperor, in its solicitude for the glorious work it begun, and in its sympathy for the emperor Maximilian, must keep an exact account of the financial situation of Mexico.

"With energy and courage, with a firm and constant will, the emperor of Mexico will be able to overcome all obstacles. This is our firm conviction after an attentive and conscientious examination of the debts and resources of the country, and Maximilian and his government must think so too if they wish to be encouraged to success."

I have nothing to do with what passed between the minister of foreign affairs and the emperor Maximilian; but I ask you if the remedy proposed by the French government is proper, in your opinion. The government wishes the return of our troops, and we wish it, but we do not approve of the manner of the withdrawal, having been so often disappointed.

Here is what I see in a despatch of the 6th of April, 1866:

"In his despatch of the 12th of February last Mr. Seward declares that the government of the United States has always conformed to the precepts of Washington in regard to the principle of non-intervention, and nothing justifies a departure from it in the present case of Mexico. We accept this assurance in full confidence, and we find a sufficient guarantee in it to justify us in withdrawing our army. The Emperor has decided that the French troops should evacuate Mexico in three detachments: the first in November, 1866, the second in March, 1867, and the third in November of the same year. You will please communicate this decision officially to the Secretary of State."

If this resolution for the return of our troops is sincere, we must applaud it. But we have cause to doubt its sincerity, if we consider recent publications in the Moniteur.

I will now take up the last document, that mentioning the despatches from Vera Cruz of the 14th of May. The despatch I allude to is of the 9th of June, 1866. Here is what I read in the preamble: "All is quiet." That means, the war is still going on.

"The Mexican General Mendez continues his operations in Michoacan; he occupies the line from Tacambaro to Uruapam; but the military arrangements recently made in that part of the country induce us to hope for peace soon. For that purpose General Bazaine has sent General Aymard and Colonel Clinchant north with their columns. General Douay, now in Saltillo, is preparing to invade New Leon, where Escobedo's bands are causing some trouble.

"The emperor Maximilian is busy organizing his army and regulating the service."

And they say our troops are coming back! Any one who is acquainted with the topography of Mexico must know that troops are not sent north to get into the road to Vera Cruz. Why are we told that the troops are coming home, when they are sent out on distant expeditions? That is the question I put to the minister.

Now, let me tell the chamber what ought to interest us greatly: It is the fate of the 30,000 braves we still have in Mexico. Now, I inquire if this interest is consistent with the announcement of the government to recall them in three bodies at such distant intervals?

You must confess that the peaceful country is at war, since our troops are always under arms. And if one-third be withdrawn, then the remainder will be exposed to double peril; and when two-thirds have been taken away, what will become of those left in the disturbed country you could not subjugate? Moral influence is all-powerful in such a situation. You announce solemnly that you are going to retire, and you call Maximilian an insolvent prince. You say his

treasury is empty. I am not the author of those despatches; they come from the minister of state, and if I mention them, it is from duty.

In diminishing the French forces you increase the Mexican strength; and if you desire to save our soldiers, defend the honor of our flag, the withdrawal must be effected in a different manner, under other conditions. My fears are not imaginary; I am not the only one to entertain them.

In February, 1866, when the Mexican question was debated in the senate, the marshal uttered the same opinion, and said:

"It is our business to help a little longer those who wish to repair the ills of fifty years of anarchy, else France would not incur such a responsibility in history. The discontented, the bandits, now without a leader, will reassemble under the flag of Juarez. Despair will seize the timid, and they will suffer all the torments that their enemies can inflict. This is so true that as soon as the cities are evacuated by our troops, the inhabitants leave them."

This, gentlemen, is a true picture; there is no caricature about it. For our honor, for our interest, we must protect our army and our citizens, who will be exposed to the greatest dangers if we abandon the country. We must protect the people who have trusted to us. I said the same last year, as the debates of the house will show. If you act otherwise, you will fail in the duty a great and civilized nation owes to itself.

I ask the government to explain itself, if it does not believe what I have stated, and to order that all our soldiers be withdrawn at once, so as not to expose the remainder to the fury of their enemies. This is my request, and when I make it of the house and government, they must know that I have taken all things into consideration. Those brave men in Mexico could be of greater service at home. Can we doubt it, when we are told that the map of Europe is soon to be remodelled?

We are the mandataries of the people—the representatives of the nation. Must we sleep, like the pilot when he sees the storm threaten, and let the vessel go to wreck?

Well, gentlemen, we have been sufficiently warned of danger, and must be aware that great resolutions will soon be required of us. We must be ready for every emergency, and need all our troops at home. The sons of France are needed on her soil, and should never have been sent away. We will welcome their return with enthusiasm, and I hope it will be a good lesson to us not to engage any more in foolish expeditions costing billions.

The PRESIDENT. Mr. Jerome David now has the floor.

[Mr. Jerome David's speech in the French chambers:]

Gentlemen, I will declare at once that we are not quitting Mexico by the order of a foreign power. To suppose it is to offer an indignity to France. What! are we to be ordered by a stranger? [Cries of "Good, good."] I much regret this debate, that began so moderately and ended so harshly. In defending the government in its conduct in the Mexican expedition, I know I will not have the support of everybody; but I know you will listen attentively.

The Mexican expedition is once more subjected to severe blame; the aid we give to a regular government is a theme for lively criticism; the return of our troops has been too long delayed, is badly arranged; promises attributed to the government are invoked; we are frightened at the insinuation that the United States will apply the Monroe doctrine to us as soon as they get through their domestic war. I do not believe in such threats; but suppose they are true, does that affect our rights? Where is the respectable nation that can be frightened out of its duty? While our troops in Mexico are struggling for a durable peace before they leave, is it right to discourage them, to inspire distrust, when union, confidence, and strength, the chief elements of success, are needed?

Let us look the question in the face. Did the spirit of adventure carry us

into Mexico? Do we seek a supremacy or an abusive protectorate over the Latin race? If it is true that our foreign relations inspire us with natural sympathy for people of the same origin and religious faith, let our sympathies act with reason upon our diplomacy.

The imperial government consults the interests of France in all its foreign expeditions, and acts accordingly. You have many proofs of it. In the late European contests for abuse of power, France has remained inactive. But when solemn conventions are disregarded, claims rejected, the property and lives of our citizens endangered, our government will not accept insignificant satisfaction. When right and justice are on our side we can overcome every obstacle. The reason why the present empire is stronger than the governments that have preceded it is, it understands questions that will lead to ruin, if not favorably solved, and the Mexican question is one of them.

When the government is blamed for the Mexican expedition, the cavillers certainly forget its origin. You must remember that events are controlled by no policy; Providence directs them; governments can only profit by them if they are properly considered. See the recent example of the United States, and you will learn that the fame of nations depends upon their energy and courage. If the prophecies of certain counsellors were attended to, every glorious undertaking would fail.

Those who oppose the Mexican expedition, and wish to make use of it against the government, exclaim: Let the past alone; let us attend to the present! Why should we not consider the origin of the expedition to see if it was right, necessary, and for the interest of France?

The old Spanish colonies have opposed free commerce for forty years. During that time foreigners have been imposed upon, persecuted, and often murdered without cause in those countries. Yet we are adopting a temporizing policy, still employed in the South American republics and those of Central America; a policy of diplomacy, that did no good except through consular agents, who often prevented outrages, by arbitrary action, because they knew the people they had to deal with. We preferred this lame policy to rigorous measures, because we did not wish to engage alone in a contest in which other European governments were equally interested. But when Spain took the first step to force a satisfaction for wrongs and injuries, and was joined by England, in the treaty of the 31st of October, was it not right and proper for us to accede to the expedition? After these fixed facts, can any one say the expedition was undertaken hastily or rashly?

Observe the tactics of the opposition; see those men remove the real base of the structure and substitute a false foundation, and sustain it with so much art it seems almost real. Thus they say the French government initiated the Mexican expedition, and it must bear the responsibility. I say we went to Mexico with Spain and England, and they share the responsibility of the expedition with us. Our allies withdrew, and we were left alone.

Now we are asked: Why did you not withdraw with the allies? If you expected to succeed, why did you not resort to less expensive measures than a campaign into the interior of Mexico? I answer thus:

We did well not to treat with Juarez; we did not take up arms to trifle with a government that would have deceived us when we got out of the country. When a strong power draws the sword, and spreads its banner for combat, when it sends its forces beyond the sea, it is done after all pacific means are exhausted; and it is ridiculous, after such a display, to condescend to ratify conditions that had already been rejected.

If our allies chose to go many thousand leagues to believe the fallacious promises of a cunning mestizo, which they would not listen to before they left Europe, it is none of our business. France has acted differently and rightly, I will say, even if I am alone in the belief, in persevering in the Mexican ex-

pedition. It has cost us dearly, I must confess, and the brave blood of our soldiers and sailors has been shed in distant countries. All the burdens of an expedition into a wild and unhealthy country have fallen upon us. Yet I say, even at that cost, we did right not to back out like Spain and England. History will applaud us for not giving up Mexico like our allies.

I tell you if we had not persevered in the Mexican expedition after our allies left us, European influence would have been so greatly despised in all America that the consequence would have been long and disastrous wars. Now we have gained a reputation in the New World. Since 1860 difficulties have arisen between Spain and her old colonies, and the President of Ecuador, one of the Colombian republics, has officially solicited the protection of France.

Look at our conduct in Mexico in its true light, without reducing it to the vulgar proportions of that school of heroes who talk of glory but never risk its dangers, who boast of national fame and do not know that it is won by hard blows. Think of the greatness of your country, and try to make its name respected, and its requests heard in every part of the globe.

When the Suez canal is finished, a work due to the courage of modern genius, Asia, the ancient cradle of human sciences, will be transformed, and the world will look with wonder upon the great work begun and finished by French efforts. And, next, all eyes will be turned towards Mexico and Central America, where our labors will show the results of combined labor and science toward the utilization of the works of nature. When the two oceans shall be connected, our influence in Mexico, due to our perseverance, will place us foremost as the greatest civilizer of wild nations, and the opener of new commercial routes to the Indian ocean, Australia, and China.

After the hardest part of the work was over, when we had penetrated into the interior of Mexico, we could not endanger our prospects by too much haste. O, you may be sure history would have been severe on those who, regardless of advantages obtained by great sacrifices, advised an evacuation of Mexico, and on a government weak enough to yield to the first orders to quit.

Acknowledge some merit and grandeur in the thought of enforcing respect for international rights in a magnificent country, admirably located, without which it would be lost to agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, and to a proper distribution of the productive forces of the globe. Just as the Roman roads in Africa showed that the royal nation had spread the floods of its genius and the enchantment of its power to the confines of the habitable globe, so will we be proud to leave, as vestiges of our occupation, railways, post roads, and the many signs of a civilized people, in a country so long devoid of them. We, a great nation, too, must be proud to force the pen of history to record that, in spite of opposition and obstacles, we alone, for the general interest of the world and the principle of progress, left the impress of our eagles upon the soil of the Montezumas.

I do not place these general considerations in the first rank; they are ranged with the decisive causes that brought us to Mexico in company with Spain and England.

I now come to the second question: why we did not have recourse to naval means.

Say a fleet is sent to demand satisfaction; a blockade of the ports is declared; the coast towns are bombarded, and what is the result? In that country commerce is in the hands of French, English, Spanish, and Americans; to bombard the coast towns, then, or blockade the ports, would be injuring the very people we desire to protect and defend. Here is an illustration: Chili is warring with Spain; the foreign residents become excited; consuls try to prevent reprisals by the Spanish squadron; when these reprisals occur and Valparaiso is bombarded, a cry of anguish resounds throughout all Europe. Blockading and reprisals never did any good. Did we not try both in 1838, when the fort of San Juan

de Ulloa was captured, and the city of Vera Cruz invested? We tried the same plan, in concert with England, for fifteen years in the Plate, against Rosas, the dictator of Buenos Ayres, without bringing him to terms.

I say the government did not begin the Mexican expedition, but acquiesced in it under very favorable circumstances. I maintain that the withdrawal of the allies did not make it right for us to recede. I have shown the inefficacy of naval means. It remains for me to examine our aim in Mexico, the results obtained; and I must show in what condition our withdrawal would leave the regions of the New World, where our eagles have so triumphantly soared.

I am astonished to hear some ask, "What did you go to Mexico for, and what have you got?"

Nations, as well as individuals, desire a moral satisfaction in a duel, and not a pecuniary recompense. We risk our lives because it is necessary, without considering the danger, to avoid dishonor and contempt. Now we have already got in Mexico, in a most complete manner, what our expedition required, namely, a satisfaction by armed force. We have overcome every obstacle, conquered every resistance. A few thousand French soldiers have marched as conquerors in every direction, over a territory three times as large as France. They have opened ways through roadless regions, by their ingenuity, patience, and perseverance. Except under rare circumstances, where exemplary punishment was obligatory, they have been distinguished for their discipline and their respect for property and persons. They have completely changed the condition of Mexico. Brigandage is nearly destroyed.

When certain orators discuss the Mexican question, they talk as if it were a European country. Nothing is more absurd. The social condition of Mexico resembles that of no European nation. Thus, for instance, in Mexico crime was a profession; a man was murdered for a few dollars. Entire villages lived on theft and rapine. Robbers hired themselves to the leader of a faction that would give the most money, and thus robbery was ennobled into patriotism.

Before our arrival, a week did not pass that the diligence from Vera Cruz to Mexico was not stopped and its passengers plundered. This was so common that when it did not occur it excited astonishment and was the talk for some time. These are facts; so we must not compare Mexico to a European country.

But I have not mentioned another purpose of our expedition. We have not been satisfied with military glory; we are not content to overtake the malefactors in their strongholds and deprive them of a power that served to violate the laws of nations; we are attempting to restore confidence and revive the energy of the large number of creoles who long for a firm government and the peace necessary to develop the boundless resources of the country.

The native population is enlightened; it is composed of scientific and literary men—of lawyers of merit and industrious mechanics, who submit to every inconvenience and imposition, pay enormous taxes to any brigand calling himself the government, and do anything for the sake of peace, which they never have.

The majority of the creoles despaired of public order as long as the ruling power was in the hands of a Mexican. They well understood that in a country where thirty revolutions and over two hundred insurrections had taken place in less than half a century, no native individual could rule with any security; so they turned their eyes to Europe for a prince to govern them properly.

By his genealogy the Archduke Maximilian was connected to the ancient possessors of Mexico; he had given proof of a liberal spirit; and it was hoped he could restore order without suppressing liberty. The French government has been greatly blamed for helping the Archduke Maximilian to the throne of Mexico; and it was said French blood was shed only for the benefit of an archduke of Austria. Such talk does not deserve attention. What was plainer than our attitude during the conference with Maximilian? What more natural

than his advent? How then can the government be reproached with having brought him into power? We encouraged him because we thought he was the person to restore order to Mexico; but we did not join our fortunes to his, except as far as our interests are concerned. We are still masters of our movements; and when we perceive that the expenses of the expedition are likely to become greater than the profits, we wisely determine to withdraw our troops. Where is the blame now?

The emperor Maximilian is now in a condition to retain the power with which he has been invested by the Mexicans, and he must profit by it. True, he will have trouble yet from the chronic anarchy of the country, but he has an army to put that down; and European contingents are enlisting to serve him; many Creoles are protecting his throne; a good government will insure him the support of the entire Indian population, the millions of which must be allowed to participate in public affairs.

This Indian population, hitherto excluded from civil rights, must be allowed the right of suffrage if peace is to be kept in the country. If there had been any patriotism in the country our task would have been easy; but the oligarchy, clerical or liberal, has always oppressed these natives and made use of them without rewarding them for their services.

This is the eloquence of facts, showing that we have destroyed the odious tyranny in Mexico without injury to patriotism.

Soldiers of France! you are liberators and not oppressors; no compunctions will dim your glory. Keep your good conscience, for you have right and justice on your side.

Should we prolong our stay in Mexico till everything has become quiet, till pacification is complete, and all the wheels of government are running smoothly? I would say yes, if we could say precisely when that would be; but that era depends upon the ruler and his agents, change of public spirit, and on events in other parts of America.

As it is, I say no; because all these elements of success are uncertain, and it would be wrong in France not to trust the strength of the power established. As we were to quit Mexico, a time was to be fixed. You have been told the terms. But if the French troops are withdrawn, what will become of French subjects in Mexico and the native population favoring intervention? They will be exposed to many dangers, and thousands will reproach you with their ruin.

It is too hasty to suppose the immediate fall of the emperor Maximilian. Suppose we had abandoned Mexico with Spain and England, would the Mexicans who had solicited intervention be any better off than they are now? I think not. Mexican affairs were in great confusion, and we did our best to regulate them; if we have not succeeded perfectly, history, at least, will say we did much good.

In eighteen months we will be out of Mexico. Within that period all French subjects and distrustful natives will have time to quit the country. They will suffer damages, but they will be less than they would have been if we had retired with Spain and England.

At any rate, besides honorable satisfaction for insults, we have done for Mexico all that we could consistently with the interests of France.

Now, one of two things must happen: either Maximilian will sustain himself, and it will be said we did good to Mexico; or he will yield to circumstances, and France cannot be blamed for it.

If Maximilian cannot succeed in conciliating opposing parties he will have to give up and let the Mexicans direct their own affairs. If the government succeeds after France has left, her part will be enviable; she will have done a great act of civilization.

In case Maximilian falls, the war expenses and French interests will depend

upon the governments that succeed him in Mexico, and I do not see what difference it will make to us. We have given the people of Mexico some notions of order, common law, general security, and civil equality, and it is to be hoped they will be remembered and heeded. We have sown good seed in Mexico; Providence will attend to its germination, fruit will follow, and we will be proud of the part we have taken in its regeneration. The government has been blamed for the Mexican loan, here in the house, and out of it.

The loan was facilitated by the government, else how could we have an army in Mexico? We did assist in the establishment of a monarchy in Mexico, but it was solicited by Mexicans. We lent our banner and our soldiers to the cause; the most we could do, for the loan was insignificant compared to it.

The loans of 1864 and 1865 were openly proposed and knowingly accepted; there was no deception or treachery about them. The Mexican question had been publicly discussed, and was thoroughly known in its good and bad aspects. Since 1861 every investigation and research into the resources and condition of the country have been instituted, and the results made known. The government thought Mexico could be resuscitated, and it thinks so yet. The subscribers to the loan acted knowingly; they were not deceived. Is not the interest of their investment promptly paid an evidence of the security of the principal?

If it is true that public opinion in France desires the return of our troops, and if this return is to our interest, we must have guarantees against foreign intervention.

I do not think the United States will interfere in Mexican affairs. Why should they? what would be gained by it?. The population of Mexico is composed of creoles, mestizos, and Indians; and there is no analogy or relation between the Spanish American and Anglo-American races. They differ in manners, constitution, language, religion—in every way; all is opposition and contrast. The question of race, then, is absurd.

We hear of the Monroe doctrine. How long since a doctrine addressed to a nation in a public message became a law to foreign nations? We can understand that the United States dreaded a neighboring monarchy; but because they have a republic, it is not just to oppose all other kinds of governments in the New World. A monarchy in Mexico can do no harm to the United States. It would require many years to enable Mexico to raise an army like that of the United States in the late war between the federals and confederates.

With the negative right of the United States we will compare the positive right of every sovereign nation to wage war and accept the results. By virtue of this right we have aided Maximilian. Now, if he is deposed by Mexican will, France has nothing to say; she accepts the doctrine of non-intervention. The United States can do as they please, but they have no right to meddle with Mexico. Even if they had a right, what would they gain by it? If it is for territorial extension, it seems to us the United States has already more territory than they can properly reconstruct into a solid Union. Would not the prosperity of Mexico be more profitable to the commerce of the United States than its former anarchy?

Different Presidents of the United States have acknowledged as much in their messages, by deploring the anarchy that has desolated Mexico. In 1858 President Buchanan said: "The succeeding governments of Mexico have not been able to give protection to Mexican citizens or to foreign residents against the violence of outlaws." And in 1859: "Mexico cannot recover its position among nations nor prosper internally without assistance."

After these declarations the United States would do wrong to aid the lawless party we are trying to put down in Mexico.

When I consult the good sense and wisdom of the statesmen of the Union, I say such a conflict is impossible and will not take place.

The United States have had a lesson in their late civil war that will warn them not to attempt to rule the whole western continent, though the attempt would be repugnant to justice and reason.

Scientific discoveries have joined the two continents; communications are more frequent, and the people of the west must mix with us and share our civilization.

The United States know better than to permit themselves to be governed by the quarrelsome instincts of a turbulent minority; they know better than to join in evil causes that do not concern them. They had better join in the effort of Europe to restore order and civilization to the many nations and races of people between the Rio Grande and Cape Horn.

We do not want to persuade the United States that their providential mission is the same as ours; we do not even go so far as to request them to recognize the order of things established in Mexico. But they must understand that we have not borne our colors upon Mexican soil and drenched it with our blood to permit a third party to interfere as soon as we have left and overturn an edifice founded by the blood of our soldiers, under pretext of difference of opinion, and in contempt of the principles of intervention.

We have a sympathy for the United States, because we remember that our fathers aided them in their first struggle for independence; and we would deplore a rupture with a friendly nation, whose freedom gleams in history like the radiant aurora of the French revolution. These pleasant memories, however, must not prevent us from reminding the Americans that France expects a reciprocal courtesy from them under all circumstances.

No, the United States will not intervene in Mexican affairs; their statesmen may not immediately depart from the singular forms of their official communication and their boastful harangues, so flattering to the American temperament, which is pleased with noisy and bold declarations. Popularity is acquired by all sorts of ways in America. The best way for us to answer the rude diplomatic style of the United States is to reply in the moderate, firm, and polished language so suited to a nation like France.

The future of Mexico will then be left to Mexicans, and our generous attempt to help them will cause no warfare. We carried the genius of civilization to Mexico; we hope it will come out victorious from its many trials. We look upon that future with confidence, and we are convinced that in aiding the policy of our government we have done an act truly good and useful for the influence and fame of our country.

In sustaining the policy of the government, we show ourselves the representatives of that generous and noble France that prefers determination, and even boldness, to the reproach of indecision and timidity. We will scorn appeals made to selfish and vulgar sentiments, and support a policy that looks only to the grandeur and dignity of the country. [Immense applause.]

No. 23.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 16, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 8th instant, containing the series of documents on the Mexican question presented in June last by the French government to its legislative body, a copy of which had been before received from Europe.

Be pleased to accept my thanks for your courtesy.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don Matias Romero, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 24.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

Mexican Legation in the United States of America,
Washington, July 10, 1866.

Mr. Secretary: I have the honor to transmit to you for the information of the government of the United States, copies of a circular which I have had printed in New York, containing fragments of various letters taken from the French and Belgian soldiers who occupied Monterey and Saltillo in April last. The originals were sent to me by General Escobedo, the 27th of May, with his communication from Linares, published in the beginning of the circular, and another letter from Manuel Gomez, General Escobedo's secretary, dated Rio Blanco, April 26, giving many important particulars.

Though the intercepted letters give very inexact accounts of the situation, enough is said in them to show that the French soldiers are weary of the unjust war their government is forcing them to make on Mexico, without aim or object. They do not believe the so-called empire of the usurper Maximilian can be established without a considerable re-enforcement of French forces; they ridicule the official declarations of the French government that peace is restored in Mexico, and many of them contend that the intervention is unjust.

The annexed circular contains only the most noted passages of the principal of those letters.

I am pleased to have the opportunity of renewing to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. William H. Seward, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 8.

French intervention in Mexico, as seen by their own partisans.

Linares, *May* 27, 1866.

Very Dear Sir: Douay's first expedition is at an end, with no damage but extensive robberies, called fines, in the places he occupied.

Houses were robbed in Rio Blanco, Galeana, and Iturbide, and a few innocent people shot by the bandit Dupin. Jeaningros retreated in double-quick, taking the shortest cuts, as soon as he heard of my approach. Yet we harassed him considerably, and many of his men deserted, for seventeen French and Belgians joined one of my officers.

The invading army is entirely demoralized, while I am pleased to see confidence and enthusiasm increase on our side. I have received some arms I bargained for, and hope soon to receive the rest, with plenty of ammunition; so that, with these and what you can send me, this army corps will soon be in a condition to attack the strongholds of the interior, with prospects of success.

My hard marches and occasional indisposition have hitherto prevented me from sending the important original letters which I now enclose. I think it would be well to print the most interesting of them, and put them in reach of

the French people, who unanimously disapprove the intervention we are now opposing.

All the news we have from the interior is good. Public spirit is rising everywhere, and affection for the new empire is daily decreasing.

The clergy are disheartened because they do not find Maximilian to be the man they expected. The landed proprietors and merchants can do nothing, not even keep what they have; and as they have no surety for peace, they want a change.

Finally, the traitors are disgusted with the frequent rebuffs of the French, and everything tends to exasperate the people against intervention and the abortive empire of Maximilian.

We have great hopes of success, and if we only had money it would soon be certain, and our triumph would be complete.

I am pleased to sign myself your friend and servant,

M. ESCOBEDO.

Citizen MATIAS ROMERO,
in Washington.

RIOBLANCO, *April* 26, 1866.

VERY DEAR SIR: General Escobedo sent you some original letters of chiefs, officers and soldiers of the invading army, intercepted by our forces. Thinking it would be well to let them be seen by the French people, who acknowledge the justice of our cause, and censure Napoleon's obstinacy in meddling with our affairs, I have thought proper to make some observations, which may have some importance, as coming from witnesses of the facts.

The brave men who are defending their country suffer so many privations, that if their cause were not so holy I am sure many of them would give up in despair. Our enemies have all the ports and many of the chief towns, so our means are reduced to the smallest scale. Our soldiers have scarcely the necessaries of life, yet they always meet the enemy bravely, badly armed as they are, and worse clad, and suffering from exposure and hunger. The necessary continued action does not permit time to drill them and give them the proper discipline, whereas the enemy have all they want and are punctually paid; so it is not strange that masses of men superior to the French in numbers (though not as great as they represent it) give up or avoid a fight.

I am sure General Escobedo's army corps is better supplied, as we have only white cotton pants and sandals for our men. They have just made a campaign that nobody would credit who had not seen it. On the 23d, near Soledad, we learned that Dupin was coming with four hundred cavalry and two hundred infantry, with two pieces of artillery; and though we were waiting for aid from Matehuala, General Espinosa determined to attack them with four hundred infantry and five hundred cavalry, in conjunction with General Aureliano Rivera. On the 23d at five in the morning, after eating *pinole* without bread or cakes, our infantry marched out, and suffered for water till three o'clock, when they came in sight of the enemy. This was a company of considerable reputation, whose chief was very haughty. He did not wait for us, but began the attack with such boldness and confidence that his cavalry nearly surrounded our line; but, not frightened, we stood our ground for the first charge, and then rushed on them, repulsing them with considerable loss. I firmly believe that if night had not supervened, their rout would have been complete; but it would have been very imprudent in us to continue the fight in the dark. General Espinosa, fearing the enemy might be re-enforced, ordered a retreat, which was effected in good order; and our fatigued men had to march back to Soledad, where they got the first meal they had eaten that day.

To march twenty-five leagues without eating for forty hours, fighting with

an enemy well armed, equipped and fed, is no ordinary labor, and could not be imitated by the haughty French. Yesterday the infantry returned to this place, twelve leagues, because there was no resting place at Soledad.

The French letters, as you may imagine, are full of exaggerations and foolish boasts; but they all agree in the idea that there is no peace in Mexico, and intervention cannot hold out without more French troops; and some confess that intervention is unjust and inexcusable. They are generally dissatisfied; they think there is no glory, and certainly no profit, in the campaign; and they are beginning to despair of the empire, because it is neither honest nor just.

The rout of three French companies on the first at Santa Isabel, near Parras, by a cavalry brigade of this army corps under General Treviño, with some Coahuila forces, has caused many absurd stories, which you will see in the letters. Without mentioning the 700 traitors that fought with the 200 French, they want to make the world believe that they alone fought against four or five thousand of our men. Their official report is very far from true; but you will find the whole truth in General Escobedo's report. When they take one of us prisoner, which is not very often, they spare his life and boast of it, while we have more than seventy French prisoners and spare them; yet we are called bandits and assassins. Here where I am now writing I am looking on the ruins of four of the best houses in the town, burned by the French last December because they belonged to persons in our army. The town was sacked, and few houses are left in which they did not destroy the furniture. Thus they make war on us, and with the odious decree of the third of October they cry to Heaven, calling us barbarians incapable of self-government, because we take food and horses where we can find them and impose loans from necessity and stick to a cause as sacred as our own existence.

The citizens of Mexico had better perish than give up the independence of their country,

We have no news from the interior; but the papers in the capital announce that each day brings trouble to the empire; rebellions spring up on every side, and the clergy no longer offer the support they promised. Now that there is so much trouble in the States of Tamaulipas, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, and San Luis, the centre will have time to rest, and our brothers can recover their accustomed strength.

We are united and compact. The presidential question passed without disturbance and we continue to acknowledge the government of Señor Juarez. It is the same in the interior; and the liberal newspapers, even in towns held by the empire, defend our cause. We need arms, particularly sabres for cavalry. It is impossible for us, armed only with a rifle or musket, to contend with the French, Austrian, or traitor cavalry, all well armed, mounted, and equipped; yet we do not shun battle, and have often whipped them in fair fight. If you can send some of these articles to this army corps it will give a new impulse to the national cause.

I hope you will consider this letter as the expression of a Mexican who loves his country, and wishes, when it is spoken of in Europe, that the truth may be known, so that good men may not be deceived by persons like Forey, who think they know a country they have seen in arms and examined from camps.

I remain, Mr. Romero, your very attentive and humble servant,

MANUEL GOMEZ.

Minister Don Matias Romero.

Mr. Malglaive, a French officer, writes to a friend, whom he addresses as "My dear Jules," a letter, dated Monterey, 13th of March last, containing these passages:

"We are running like crazy people after an enemy that can't be caught. I don't think they have the facts in France; I fear not; they would change public opinion.

"If there is any good sense in the Mississippi country, there is something bad there, too. The capture of Bagdad by their regiments frightened them, and now they are as gentle as lambs. Yet it was a good time for war. The indirect encouragement they give to the border bands only prolongs an absurd contest that will ruin the country and be fatal to us. The situation is the same; we do not advance towards peace.

"If the Emperor will not withdraw his forces till the present empire is firmly established, he will have to keep them here for twenty or thirty years!"

The same officer, in another letter from Monterey, of the 23d of the same month, says:

"The merchants of Tampico have lost 500,000 dollars through the second commander, who could not protect a convoy he persuaded the traders to accept and organize. The people are becoming discouraged, even the best disposed, because, after persuading them to defend themselves, we desert them and leave them at the mercy of bands that assemble to crush them. It is said Maximilian declared he was beloved by his people, and had no need of assistance. I think he is mistaken; but maybe he is wiser than many who think him a fool, and the number is large. He says: 'Peace is firm, and the government founded upon the *wishes* of the people is strengthening.' A man must be very impudent to tell such lies to a nation as is done every month through the Moniteur to France. We did wrong to come here; we should have declared our wishes; but the wine is drawn and we must drink it; we are compelled to accept the situation.

"Except Vera Cruz, which communicates with the interior, all the other ports are blockaded by rebels, and the revenues are lessened so much. If you have money to invest do not put it in Mexican loans, public or private.

"If you have friends who wish to emigrate, dissuade them from these shores, falsely said to be covered with golden sands."

Another French officer, who does not sign his name, but writes on paper stamped A. R., from Monterey, the 17th of March, speaking of Commander Briant's check at Parras, says:

"Seven officers were killed, and one prisoner with twenty men. Thanks to Treviño they have not been shot; and yet, from the way we behave towards them, they ought to have been.

"If our prisoners continue to be treated as they have been for some time back, it will give us a good lesson of clemency. But we dread it almost as much as the execution of our comrades.

"This is a sad war, a distressed country. Maximilian's arrival has made intervention impossible, and his policy is detested everywhere, by all parties."

On the 23d he said:

"Supporting a stupid cause, not to the glory of the country nor for the peace of the homestead, without the inspiration of the sacred fire of a noble cause, I see the years roll on. I will not write much; but let me tell you, both the emperor and we are disappointed. Intervention will fail; there is no longer any confidence; the empire has no faithful partisans; the clerical party is hostile, and the liberal party is making open war upon it, or betrays it. In a few years Maximilian the adventurer will return to Miramar to enjoy the luxury of his gains in Mexico. It is French money he will be spending, for the French treasury pays all expenses here, civil as well as military, Belgians and Austrians.

"Poor France! How they rob you of your treasure and spill your blood! Maximilian only reigns where his armies are stationed; there are some cities that have changed governors three or four times in one year."

Mr G. Colné, a French officer, writes from Monterey, the 24th, to a certain Mr. Bernard:

"Affairs could not be in a worse condition than they are at present; all is anarchy; everything totters and tumbles on all sides. Many of our pretended friends are false, and of late fortune has gone against us. We take no prisoners now, and the wounded are despatched; it is a war of savages, unworthy of Europeans. The Belgians with us are dissatisfied, and want to return by the first of September. Such is the aspect of military affairs, not to mention Americans and niggers who often join the rebel bands, to the number of two or three thousand, and sometimes more. Such is our condition after four years shooting and murdering in every direction. That will show the affection the natives have for us.

"As to civil affairs, there are no civilians but those who have all to gain and nothing to lose by accepting service under the *tottering* empire. The treasury is empty; there is not a city that can pay its own expenses; and yet the custom-houses charge high rates for everything, making living very expensive.

"In conclusion, the general opinion is, among French as well as foreigners of all nations, that we are in a desperate situation, which is growing worse every day; and after suffering incredibly and spending millions we will have nothing to show for it."

Another officer, whose signature seems to be Duley, sends this short missive to his mother:

"MONTEREY, *March* 25, 1866.

"DEAR MOTHER: I have returned to Monterey after an expedition of one month into the country. Affairs are no better. Three companies of our regiment were entirely destroyed in a fight with the liberals, and yet the French government persists in declaring the country at peace. I am in good health, and wish you the same."

"MEXICO, *April* 23, 1866.

"To General DOUAY,

"*Commander of the First Division, Saltillo:*

(After a long talk about wine and brandy intended for the general's table, the letter continues thus:)

"Affairs are becoming more and more pleasant in Mexico. I have charge of the Belgians and Austrians, the greatest spendthrifts in the world. There is something in the public horizon, and I think it will lead to Maximilian's departure. If we retire the German power is lost. Such is the reward of four years of war and labor. I have nothing more to say; but if I could have an interview with you I could tell something that would astonish you.

"I repeat the assurance, dear general, of my most distinguished consideration.

"TISSEROT,

"*Intendant for two months and fourteen days.*"

"CORPS OF MEXICO, CABINET OF THE MARSHAL-IN-CHIEF,

"*Mexico, April* 22, 1866.

"To Commander SEIGLAND,

"*Aide-de-camp of General Douay:*

* * * * * * * * *

"You tell me that the general was displeased because his excellency did not let the base calumnies against him go unnoticed. It is certain that the general's reputation would not have suffered more by it in the eyes of the Emperor than in the opinion of the marshal.

* * * * * * * * *

"It would be hard to discover the origin of the information, and the marshal says it would be giving too much importance to the report to investigate its source. We heard it through the chief of police, who is now not to be found, but who thought it well to tell us of it before communicating it to the Emperor's cabinet. That is what I had to communicate. Now I must tell you confidentially something to be known only *entre nous:* I don't admire the young people you have around you. They are all agreeable, even those without epaulettes, and I should not dislike them; but they are too young, and youth cannot have sense. They think their general must coincide with them in opinion, and they write to France stories that are perfectly miraculous. I know General Douay's upright and loyal character too well to attribute to him the nonsense that is circulated in the French capital, and which comes back to me in the strangest manner possible.

"L. DE NOUE."

The undersigned, secretary of the Mexican legation in Washington, certifies that the two preceding letters in Spanish, one signed by M. Escobedo and the other by Manuel Gomez, are true copies of the originals, subscribed by General Don Mariano Escobedo, governor of the State of New Leon and general-in-chief of the northern army corps, and by the licentiate, Don Manuel Gomez, civil and military secretary of the same. I also certify that the foregoing extracts of French letters are taken from an intercepted correspondence received at this legation.

IGNACIO MARISCAL.

WASHINGTON, *June* 27, 1866.

No. 25.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 23, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 10th instant, containing copies of a circular which you had lately printed, giving extracts from letters written by French and Belgian soldiers at Monterey and Saltillo; for the information contained in which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 26.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, July 21, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to send you, for the information of the government of the United States, a copy of a communication of the 15th of June last, addressed to me from Amatlan by General Don Alejandro Garcia, second

in command on the eastern line of the Mexican republic, in reply to my circular of the 26th of April touching the evacuation of Mexico by the French army, which I sent to him, and copies of which I enclosed to you with my letter of the 9th of May following.

I accept the opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c.*, *&c.*, *&c.*

MEXICAN REPUBLIC, HEADQUARTERS OF THE EASTERN LINE—SECOND GENERAL IN CHIEF.

AMATLAN, *June* 15, 1866.

CITIZEN MINISTER: I report to-day to the citizen minister of foreign relations of the republic as follows:

"I recently received a printed correspondence (No. 7) from the Mexican legation in the United States of America, dated Washington, 26th of April last, in which our minister plenipotentiary, citizen Matias Romero, sends a translated copy of the principal documents sent by the President of the United States to the 39th Congress, at the request of the House of Representatives, in relation to the Mexican question.

"As I do not doubt the authenticity of the correspondence, considering its source, nor the correctness of the translation of the documents quoted, as they are certified by the secretary of the Mexican legation, citizen Ignacio Mariscal, I beg leave to call the attention of the supreme government to the contradiction between some declarations of those documents and certain facts transpiring in this part of the republic, under my command, so that you may communicate them to the President of the republic, to be acted on as he may think best.

"In note No. 17, addressed by Mr. Seward to Marquis Montholon on the 12th of February last, analyzing Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys's of the 9th of January, among other things the following words of the French minister are quoted:

"'On the other hand, we admit as well as they [the United States] the principle of non-intervention. From this moment we return to our principle of non-intervention, and we accept it as a rule of conduct.'

"This was said by the French minister to the American minister on the 9th of January. Now, I take the liberty of pointing out to you the contradiction that is working here on this line between facts and the official promise, so that the government of the republic may not fail to know it, on account of its great distance from these regions.

"The so-called imperial government sent an armed expedition here in March last to conquer the coast towns that have continued to obey the republican government.

"The expedition of infantry and cavalry would never have succeeded in getting as it did but for the aid of the French war steamers Tempête, Diligente, Pique, and Tactique, and one other I have forgotten.

"These five steamers, with French flags and four hundred men, infantry and marines, came up to Tlacotalpam on the 24th of March, while the imperial troops went round by Omealca, forcing me to evacuate that place, the seat of government and headquarters of the eastern line, with the few loyal forces that garrisoned it.

"Soon afterwards I collected all the loyal Mexican troops in the State, and laid siege to Tlacotalpam to recover it from the Mexican traitors who held it, aided by the five French vessels, that continued to cannonade us so vigorously we could not retake it.

"I must here add that on the attack of the 6th, when our soldiers had already

penetrated some of the streets, and were threatening Zaragoza square, into which we had forced the enemy, the French vessels, knowing we had no artillery, began to bombard the town, and did much damage to the houses and harmless inhabitants.

"Besides these acts, which are daily repeated, there are others not less flagrant in Vera Cruz, where the French packet arrived on the 10th instant with five hundred soldiers for the army of the so-called empire, that landed in the city and immediately set out for Mexico.

"From this, citizen minister, you will learn that the French are not practicing intervention in this country, and you will please so inform the President of the republic that he may act in the case as he thinks proper."

All of which I transcribe for your information and proper action.

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

Citizen MATIAS ROMERO,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic in the U. S. of America, Washington City.

WASHINGTON, *July* 21, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 27.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 31, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 21st instant, containing a copy of a communication addressed to you by General Garcia on the subject of the evacuation of Mexico by the French, for the information contained in which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 28.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *July* 21, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to send you some extracts of two letters received by the last steamer from Vera Cruz, one of the 29th of June, from the City of Mexico, and the other from Puebla, dated the 5th instant, containing important information of reported arrangements lately entered into between the Emperor of the French and his Mexican agent, the Austrian ex-Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian. I am promised to have a copy of the convention therein referred to; as soon as it reaches me, I will enclose it to you.

This is the information I alluded to in my conversation with you in the Department of State this morning.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

MEXICO, *June* 29, 1866.

* * * * * * *

Here is the substance of the negotiations between Mr. Dano, the French minister, and Maximilian :

France will leave 20,000 men in Mexico for four years, to be paid out of the French treasury. They will assume the title of Mexican soldiers, only changing their flag and uniform. France will contribute five hundred thousand dollars a month to the deficit of the civil list. Collection of the revenues will be intrusted entirely to the French.

Two hundred thousand dollars will be appropriated monthly to the railroad between Mexico and Vera Cruz, and the road will be mortgaged for the French debt, the certificates of the last loans being exchanged for railroad bonds.

Such is the substance of the contract. Troops had begun to march upon San Luis, and twenty thousand suits of clothing had been contracted for. The so-called "Cazadores Mejicanos" will continue to wear the French medals. Bazaine will soon start for San Luis. I understand that Jeaningros has been ordered to reoccupy Matamoras, at all hazards. The loss of Matamoras was the cause of mutual recrimination between Maximilian and Bazaine, and the discord was increased by the decree revoking the pension granted by the republic to the family of General Zarogoza, the conqueror of the French at Pueblo.

I will send you a copy of the convention alluded to, by the next steamer.

* * * * * * *

WASHINGTON, *July* 21, 1866.

A true copy :

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

PUEBLO, *July* 5, 1866.

MUCH ESTEEMED SIR: * * * * * * * * * Since the promise of France to observe the principles of non-intervention, it is observed that its army continues to sustain the government erected in Mexico ; and the means resorted to in sustaining and consolidating the throne seem exceedingly strange.

Reliable papers from Mexico report that Maximilian has concluded a convention with Dano, the French minister. Its bases are : That an army of twenty thousand men, composed of the Austrians and Belgians now fighting, with the French that are to be disbanded in order to enter the Mexican service, are to remain. France is to contribute five hundred thousand dollars a month for four years, and will supply the deficit of the civil list.

The general opinion here is, that, in spite of the solemn promises made by France to the United States, the withdrawal of the French army will not be effected in good faith, for it is hard to give up a work that has cost so much blood and money.

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WASHINGTON, *July* 21, 1866.

A true copy :

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 29.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 25, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 21st instant, containing some extracts of letters received by you from the cities of Mexico and Puebla, bearing on the question of French intervention in Mexico. Please accept my thanks for the information.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 30.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, July 24, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to send you, for the information of the government of the United States, the copy of a letter of the 5th instant from a reliable person in the city of Mexico; also three extracts from La Sociedad, a paper of that city, which were enclosed in the letter.

Attention is called in the letter to two circulars contained in the extracts issued by the so-called prefects of Durango and Queretaro, in regard to the enlistment of volunteers in two corps of chasseurs, which are organizing, with others of the same kind, by the ex-Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian, to form an army to sustain his usurpation when the French flag is withdrawn from Mexico.

From the enclosed circulars it appears that the new army is to be composed of Mexicans and French, the latter in greater majority as soldiers and especially officers. As a proof of this last assertion the first battalion of cazadores was formed of Mexicans, and nearly half of the eighty-first regiment of the line of the French army now in Mexico, and most all the officers were French. Out of 28 officers in those battalions only two are of Mexican descent, all the others being French, as the names will show. This is seen in the list published by the so-called minister of war of the usurper, on the 30th of June last, contained in one of the enclosed extracts. All of them came out of the invading army, and being promoted one grade, they now enter the army that is to support the usurper.

These particulars confirm the report I had the honor to communicate to you in my letter of the 21st, in regard to the late arrangements between the Emperor Napoleon and his agent in Mexico, to sustain him in the position where French bayonets have placed him when France has withdrawn her flag, but not her soldiers, from Mexico.

My desire that the United States be duly informed of the most important political events occurring in Mexico during the present crisis has induced me to give you the information contained in the present note.

I accept the opportunity of renewing to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

MEXICO, *July 5*, 1866.

* * * * * * * *

I send a circular for the enlistment of volunteers, published in Durango. You will see by it that Maximilian is organizing a *Mexican army*, forming corps of *cazadores de Mejico*, by the time the French leave, which will be soon. These corps will be composed of three or five per cent. of Mexicans, and the rest foreigners, that is, French. The best evidence of this is, that the main body of the first battalion of cazadores is formed of one thousand men taken from the 81st regiment of the line of the French army. The object of this is to retain the French army and call it Mexican. You will see by the paper extracts I send that out of twenty-eight officers of the cazadores, there are only two Mexicans. The French sergeants have been promoted to subalterns, and the latter raised to captains. A few southern rebels have been taken into the ranks.

The French Colonel De Portier, known as the *scourge* in the city of Mexico, and as the assassin in Michoacan, will remain as general.

Bazaine has gone inland to make these arrangements; and though it is said he will go back to France in September with three-fourths of the French army, there is little appearance of it at present.

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WASHINGTON, *July* 24, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary*.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

CIVIL PREFECTURE OF DURANGO, SECTION 3, NO. 448.

DURANGO, *June* 15, 1866.

His majesty the emperor, and his excellency Marshal Bazaine, having determined to raise a battalion of foot *cazadores*, similar to those in the French army, the prefect charges you to open an office for the enlistment of volunteers within your district, in accordance with the regulations for recruiting volunteers of the 1st of November, paying twenty-five dollars to each volunteer, after conforming to articles 59 and 60 of the law referred to.

The infantry battalion of cazadores shall be commanded by an officer of the French battalion, and shall consist of French and Mexican officers and soldiers. The soldiers of this body shall be governed by the rules of the French army, paid regularly, and all their necessities supplied. Corporal punishment shall not be inflicted.

When not on duty they may go out of their quarters, and leave to visit their families may be given to those who conduct themselves properly.

When their term of service is out they are entitled to a certificate of discharge, and shall not be forced into military service again.

Mexican soldiers who give proofs of courage and intelligence shall be made officers, according to merit and time of service. Those in the rural guards giving evidence of merit may be transferred to the battalion of cazadores with their same rank.

When the battalion is first organized intelligent Mexicans may be made corporals and sergeants.

The recruiting flag shall be hoisted on the 1st of July over the headquarters in this capital, Pearle street, No. 12.

The above I communicate to you by order of the prefect, to be put in execution, and you are hereby ordered to have the same made public.

LADISLAO LOPEZ NEGRETE
Secretary General of the Prefecture.

Captain MANUEL FERNANDEZ,
Acting Military Commander.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

In regard to the organization of Mexican forces, and the formation of the second battalion of cazadores, the Esperanza of Queretaro says:

"By order of the civil prefect we insert the following circular, directed to the district officials, to protect and encourage the enlistment of soldiers for that distinguished corps. We have little to add to what is said in the circular about the prefect's views according with those of the emperor of giving power and influence to the Mexican army. Every citizen, whatever his condition, should aid in this good work, and to show him how to do it, we call his particular attention to the circular.

"The prefect has done well to have a large quantity printed and published, and extensively distributed throughout the country."

Here is the circular to which the Queretaro paper refers:

"CIVIL PREFECTURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF QUERETARO.

"*Circular.*

"JUNE 20, 1866.

"By order of his majesty's government, the second battalion of *cazadores de Mejico* is organizing in this city, to form the new permanent army of Mexico, with others forming in different localities, conforming in every way to the French army.

"For this purpose a recruiting office is established in this city, at the San Francisco barracks, where all volunteers will be received every day, from half past eight to half past nine in the morning.

"The term of volunteer service is 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 years.

"They will be well treated and attended to according to the regulations of the French army, supplied with clothing, shoes, food, bedding, &c., &c., and shall have the same pay as the zouaves.

"The enlisting volunteer must have these qualifications:

"1. Age between eighteen and thirty-five years.

"2. Health good, and of ordinary size.

"3. Condition, single, or widower without children.

"4. Conduct orderly, and convicted of no infamous punishment.

"His majesty's government hopes to restore the Mexican army to its former splendor, when the country was prosperous. Constituted in the proper manner, with the aid of the loyal sons of the nation, and those who adopt the noble profession of arms, it will become in a short time a great moral and brave army, a worthy rival of armies of the most civilized nations, because its constituent basis will be the French army, acknowledged over all the globe to be the best in organization, instruction, and discipline.

"His Majesty's government and its agents desire to elevate the Mexican soldier, to inspire him with a noble and just pride, to make him understand that he is no longer a war machine, but a citizen of the most honorable class in the country; while society will confess that he merits all its sympathy and care, as an integral portion of the power that constitutes the firmest support of social order.

"The officers, sergeants, and corporals of the second battalion of cazadores are selected from Mexicans and French. Mr. Deville Chabrol, its commander, is worthy of his position, and knows how to treat a soldier.

"I send you this circular by order of the civil prefect. You will have it distributed extensively among the citizens who can appreciate its importance, and encourage them by all lawful means to enlist.

"I enclose a blank certificate to be given to those who wish to enlist, so they may appear at once before the administrative council at the San Francisco barracks, under the conditions expressed in paragraph five of this circular.

"The prefect relies upon your zeal and intelligence for the proper execution of this order.

"J. ANTONIO SEPTIEN,
"*Acting Secretary General.*

"The SUB-PREFECT *of the district of*," &c.

The Esperanza continues:

"We take much pleasure in informing the public that the second battalion of cazadores is fast filling up with the best men in the country, both Mexicans and French, who are on excellent terms; and when others see how well those enlisted are treated, the ranks will soon be filled in spite of predictions to the contrary.

"Why cannot we Mexicans form an army worthy of the name, such as we had in former times, free from the demoralization of revolutionary corruption?"

[Enclosure No. 4.]

WAR DEPARTMENT.

LIST OF OFFICIAL COMMISSIONS GRANTED THE PAST MONTH FOR THE NEWLY ORGANIZED BATTALIONS.

Federico Mosso, lieutenant first battalion; Manuel Ornelas, lieutenant first battalion; Amado Alfredo Bourlon, second lieutenant second battalion; Pedro Marcelo Casserrane, second lieutenant second battalion; José Enrique Champelon, second lieutenant second batallion; Francisco Petavy, second lieutenant second battalion; Juan Millia, second lieutenant second battalion; Luis Adrian Falconnet, second lieutenant second battalion; Esteban Desiderio Falavantour, second lieutenant second battalion; Enrique Francisco Alejandro Morrille, second lieutenant second battalion; Isidoro Luis Tramblay, second lieutenant second battalion; Juan Eugenio Connay, second lieutenant fourth battalion; Juan José Eugenio Mizar, second lieutenant fourth battalion; Juan Chidel, second lieutenant fifth battalion; Claudio Augusto Clement, second lieutenant fifth battalion; Javier Sorobaine, second lieutenant fifth battalion; Hipolito Moynier, captain in the seventh battalion; Jorge Francisco Burwell, captain in the seventh battalion; Nicolas Schmitt, captain in the eighth battalion; Julio Coray, second lieutenant eighth battalion; Benjamin Hedon, second lieutenant eighth battalion; Luis Eugenio Francomun, second lieutenant eighth battalion; Florencio Luis Aynar, second lieutenant eighth battalion; Angel Bonbain Santori, second lieutenant eighth battalion; Juan José Maria Certain, second lieutenant eighth battalion; Luis E. Fernando Francisco Champreux, second lieutenant eighth battalion cazadores; Fernando Carlos Chervillon y Lois, second lieutenant eighth battalion cazadores.

J. M. MARQUEZ,
Acting Secretary of War.

MEXICO, *June* 30, 1866.

No. 31.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 30, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 24th instant, containing a copy of a letter addressed to you from the city of Mexico; also some extracts from a paper called "La Sociedad," published in that city, for the information contained in which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I embrace this occasion to renew to you the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c. &c.*

No. 32.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *July* 31, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to send you a number of the Temps, of Paris, published the 17th of this month, in which you will find a paragraph taken from the Memorial de la Loire, of the 14th, stating that a new detachment of the so-called Foreign Legion, of Mexico, passed through that city on the 13th, from Aix, going to embark at St. Nazaire for Vera Cruz.

Most respectfully, your very obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[From the "Temps," of Paris, of July 17, 1866.]

The "Memorial de la Loire," of the 14th instant, reports that a new detachment of the Foreign Legion, coming from Aix and going to embark at St. Nazaire, passed yesterday, the 13th, through that city.

No. 33.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 5, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 31st ultimo, containing a copy of the "Temps," of Paris, in which is contained some information with regard to some troops destined for Mexico.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 34.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *August* 9, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to enclose you an extract from the New York *World* of yesterday containing the letter on Mexico to which I alluded in my interview with you this morning.

Although the letter is dated in the city of Mexico, there is no doubt it was written in New York by agents of the usurper Maximilian, for the reason that it is dated the 20th of July, and the last Mexican dates received in New York only come up to the 10th of July, and because it contains facts that could not be known by a mere newspaper correspondent in Mexico, and only by persons who have the usurper's confidence and possess his secrets. As a proof of this, is the mention of the return of the German priest, Fischer, to Mexico. It is not long since he was in this city, on his return from Rome, where he went in the usurper's name, as you know, to conclude a concordat with the Pope.

I mention this to show that the writer of the letter is well acquainted with the usurper's plans and secrets, and therefore some regard is to be had for what he says about the relations of the Emperor of the French with his Mexican agent, about the Emperor's indisposal to withdraw his forces from that republic, and about the object of his wife's visit to Europe.

As a general rule I do not attach more importance to newspaper articles than you do, particularly when no details are given; but the particular circumstances of this case induce me to call your attention to it this morning, for which reason I enclose the extract to you.

Your very respectful and obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Taken from the New York World, August 8, 1866.]

[From our own correspondent.]

CITY OF MEXICO, *July* 20.

OBJECTS OF CARLOTTA'S VISIT TO EUROPE.

The departure of the empress Carlotta for Europe, although at first it created considerable excitement in Mexico, has gradually come to assume its proper place in its true light, which is an effort on the part of Maximilian to come to a definite understanding with Napoleon as to his Mexican relations. In fact, the policy of the French Emperor has been anything but satisfactory of late. Napoleon seems to delight in ambiguous and mysterious complications, which, however they may act upon the outside world, are not particularly edifying to those whose destinies hang somewhat on his dictum. Maximilian, as I have repeatedly said in my letters, is quite willing that the French troops shall leave, but he must know when their removal is to be effected. Plans of the most contradictory kind, it would seem, are continually being adopted at the Tuileries. Official information arrives by one packet that a definite contract has been effected with the French Transatlantic Steamship Company for the transportation next fall of the whole French army of occupation. But in the face of this, additional troops are constantly arriving. Immediately after the rather urgent correspondence which took place last winter between Seward and Drouyn de Lhuys, the work of concentration was commenced. Most of the imperial

troops which the winter before had been marched with such expense and trouble into northern Mexico were withdrawn from Sonora and Chihuahua into the table lands of Anahuac, ostensibly with the object of concentrating them around Mexico for a more easy embarcation at Vera Cruz. The ports of Acapulco, Guaymas, and Mazatlan were consequently left meagrely guarded by Franco-Mexican garrisons, and all the adjacent interior towns were abandoned. The predictions then made by the able General Garnier, who commanded the imperial troops in that direction, have been more than verified. Mazatlan and Guaymas are both isolated from the interior; Tepic is threatened, and the work of two years abandoned.

NAPOLEON'S MEXICAN POLICY.

It appears now, however, that this policy, although showing on its surface the appearance of a retreat, had deeper foundations. Napoleon, upon examining the situation in Mexico, became convinced that his true course was to keep two things constantly in view: first, to gain time, and by an appearance of removing his troops, await some favorable turn of events in the United States which would distract attention from Mexico for more pressing affairs at home; and secondly, that no number of troops that the French nation would long submit to his maintaining in Mexico could possibly occupy so immense a space of territory, and that concentration would not only look like the preliminary steps towards evacuation, but would enable him to act more effectively where his troops are needed.

MEXICAN WEALTH AND POPULATION.

Now an examination of the map of Mexico shows that a vast majority of the population and wealth of Mexico is contained in the central states, in the heart of which their capital is situated. The cities and large towns, with a very few exceptions, are found along the elevated table lands or plateaux of the Mexican cordillera, known as the plains of Anahuac. Probably six out of the eight millions of the Mexican people inhabit these regions, famous alike for their salubrity and productiveness. It is therefore the possession of these districts that constitutes an actual domination in Mexico. Marshal Bazaine forcibly demonstrated these facts to the French government three years ago, but the idea then was to get possession of the rich gold and silver mines of Chihuahua, Sinaloa, and Sonora, and, by encouraging southern immigration, make them eventually pay the expense of the intervention.

CONCENTRATION OF THE FRENCH ARMY.

This policy has been abandoned, and the less expensive but more reasonable one of occupying a smaller but more valuable space adopted. The withdrawal, therefore, of the French and Austrian troops into central Mexico, while it will by no means permanently endanger the seaports of the Pacific coast, will lessen the expense, as well as consolidate the power of the imperial government. Thus, after a rather vacillating policy caused by the contradictory reports from Mexico, this course has been decided upon. The troops have been concentrated within a few days' call of each other, and, to all appearances, with a view to their speedy embarcation next fall; and yet, in my opinion, nothing is further from the intentions of the Emperor than an abandonment of his Mexican enterprise; and that the emperor Maximilian has the same idea is evident from his every act, for the "Sphinx of the Tuileries" appears to have preserved an imperturbable reserve with Maximilian, as well as with the rest of the world, as to his ultimate views in Mexico.

WILL THE TROOPS BE REMOVED.

It is precisely at this point that the situation becomes complicated and inexplicable. Napoleon promises, in an ambiguous manner, to withdraw his troops; but at the same time they are concentrated so as to present a more formidable front than ever. It is officially announced that the embarcation will speedily take place; but every steamer from France brings additional full regiments to take the place of the scattering detachments returning to France by expiration of term of service. Mail steamers and war steamers are announced to be en route for Mexico to bring away the entire army; but as "foreign legions" arrive to take service with Maximilian, both from France and Germany, the available forces of the active young emperor are continually augmenting; for an indefinite number of immigrants with the above title may enter the country, and the United States cannot even expostulate or get up any virtuous indignation. During the war of the rebellion the American government swelled its ranks by tens of thousands by foreign immigrants, and no government presumed to question its perfect right so to do.

MAXIMILIAN DEMANDS AN EXPLANATION.

How, then, are we to reconcile these facts with the popular idea that Maximilian is to be abandoned by his European friends? Maximilian is in the dark as to Napoleon's intentions, if one may judge from appearances. Indeed, it is not certain that the French Emperor himself has any definite plan of action, beyond a general fixed idea of clinging to his Mexican enterprise with his characteristic tenacity of purpose. Carlotta's visit to Europe, as I have said above, is for the purpose of having an *eclaircissement* of these knotty questions. Verbal explanations are always preferable to written ones, which as often complicate as unravel political entanglements. The Empress, who is one of the most accomplished ladies of Europe, having been brought up under the eye of the Nestor of kings, will solve the riddle concealed within the brain of Napoleon, if human ingenuity can accomplish it. As it stands now the question is "very mixed," to use a newly coined phrase, but of one thing your readers may rest assured, and that is, whether Napoleon deserts or continues to sustain the Mexican empire, Maximilian will remain here and be supported by the Mexican people. What he wants is to know, beyond peradventure, his standing with France. He will not occupy the position of a puppet in the hands of Napoleon. The Mexican affair may be a very prolific one for the French Emperor to manage, as political circumstances may suggest, for his own glory, but Maximilian has much loftier views than mere personal considerations. Whatever he undertakes he never abandons. Difficulties only nerve him to greater exertions. To leave Mexico is the last idea to enter into his calculations for the future.

AFFAIRS AT TAMPICO.

In my last I pictured the condition of affairs by the latest accounts at Tampico, which, owing to an ill-judged security on the part of the imperial government, had been left to be defended by its citizens against the liberals, who had cut off its supplies from the interior. The long expected aid has arrived, and the city, which I observe by American newspapers was about to fall into the hands of its assailants, has been relieved. The inhabitants, who had stood quite a long siege, sallied out, and, joining the relieving forces, drove the liberals into the mountains, capturing a large number and wounding and killing many. Tampico may now be considered as safe. There have been several smart actions lately, in which the imperialists were victorious, as they generally are when the numbers are anything like equal.

MATAMORAS AND ITS CAPTURE.

It cannot be denied by the government that the fall of Matamoras has produced a profound effect on all sides; not that the possession or loss of such a town in itself could be of such surpassing importance, but because its loss involves serious consequences, which call for an energetic movement by the government for its recovery. To possess Matamoras places the whole line of the Rio Grande indisputably in the hands of the enemy, and gives them a point from which to operate with more security with disaffected persons who have located in Texas. The Ere Nouvelle, an influential French paper published here, says that the blow is the more severe from its being unexpected. "It was supposed," says this journal, "that the campaign commenced by General Jeanningros, the double defeat sustained by Cortinas at the hands of Olivera, the increasing discord in the Juarist camp, and, finally, the proximity of the French troops in Nuevo Leon and at Saltillo, were sufficient guarantees, if not for a complete pacification, at least against any immediate danger of a disaster."

BAZAINE EN ROUTE TO RECAPTURE IT.

This, however, is the only disaster the imperial troops have sustained on this side of the continent, and it will soon be remedied. Marshal Bazaine has reached San Luis Potosi, and will soon have effected a junction with the Franco-Mexican forces at Monterey and Saltillo, whence a regular movement will be made upon Matamoras for its recapture. In fact, I can state with certainty that this policy has been decided upon, and it cannot be long before you will hear music from that vicinity. Matamoras has been continually in a ferment since the French occupation, passing from hand to hand, and acquainted with sieges, battles, and assaults. It is of the first importance that such an important defeat should be recovered. In fact, the situation demands it.

THE IMPERIAL CABINET.

It is not yet decided who is to take the place of Señor Castillo, the minister of foreign relations, who has accompanied the empress to Europe. He is a young man of first-class attainments, cautious and reliable beyond most of the talented characters who have gathered around the emperor. His health has lately suffered much by over application to the duties of two departments, those of foreign affairs and finance. The emperor seems to be gradually ridding himself of his native Mexican advisers. Ramirez, who has always been a sort of marplot to the success of Maximilian, was particularly courted as a representative of the liberal party, and his nominal adhesion to the empire was considered as a great point gained. He was appointed minister of state, and figured quite largely at state balls and cabinet councils; but, like most Mexicans, was far behind the times, and lacked the nerve to face the critical issues of the country. Maximilian decorated and dismissed him, and, as fast as circumstances will permit, will rid himself of the others in the same way. Lacunza and Castillo are both of Spanish blood, but were educated and brought up abroad, and have thus been purged of their inherent opposition to progressive ideas. Eloin, his chief of cabinet, is now in Europe. His council of state is necessarily Mexican, but they do little more than wrangle over the questions submitted to them, and in all important issues the emperor listens to the opinions of all, and then adopts his own.

SETTLEMENT OF THE CHURCH IMBROGLIO.

The question of the church has been finally settled at Rome by the emperor's special envoy, "Padre" Fischer, a distinguished German prelate, who is now believed to be *en route* to Mexico. This has been the most difficult matter to arrange of all the delicate issues in this Mexican complication; but, as in all cases of the kind, Maximilian has boldly faced it, and succeeded in satisfying

all parties. He is a good Catholic prince, and so recognized by the Pope, who now clings to every vestige of his temporal authority with redoubled tenacity, and has never had the slightest idea of excommunicating such a staunch supporter of the real interests of the church, although at one time it was rumored that he had been put outside the "awful circle," owing to his bold measures regarding the church and liberal imbroglio in this country.

AFFAIRS AT THE CAPITAL.

While Louis Napoleon is watching the political horizon, and placing himself in a position to trim his sails to suit the Monroe-doctrine gale from the United States, Maximilian is making his arrangements for a life-lease in Mexico with the utmost unconcern as to any outside movements. He has bought the old palace of Cortes at Cuernavaca, and will repair it for his future country residence. He is making important changes in the imperial palace in this city; he is improving the capital in a hundred different ways; building railroads, and opening roads into the interior; planting avenues of trees; publishing codes of laws; establishing steamship and telegraph lines, (and, by the way, regularly paying the subsidies granted to them;) raising and equipping an efficient native Mexican army; collecting a revenue under Langlais's new system; visiting benevolent institutions; endowing colleges, and arranging for affairs twenty years in advance, as if the country were in profound peace. This certainly does not look much like verifying the New York Herald's periodical paroxysm of "packing his baggage" for a flight within thirty days from Mexico, which for two years has been predicted with such stereotyped certainty that each leader in that valuable journal on Mexican affairs is only a repetition of the last. If a liberal use of ink could induce Maximilian to quit Mexico, he ought to have fled from its shores many months ago; but here he still remains, as secure in his imperial position as ever, and it might be well for the several caudillos, who are wrangling at Washington as to which shall succeed him, to remember the old cooking recipe about first catching your fish, &c., &c.

VIAJERO.

No. 35.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 16, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 9th instant, containing an extract from the "New York World," for which please accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate to you the expressions of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 36.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, August 15, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, extracts from papers of the city of

Mexico, and French papers in New York, containing evident proof of the condition of affairs in the city of Mexico up to the end of July last.

Don Fernando Maximilian, the usurper, who organized a sham government when he reached Mexico, and tried to give it the semblance of a national institution, has finally been compelled to give up the difficult undertaking.

The so-called government, with a foreign prince for its head, kept up by French bayonets and French gold, whose officials are all foreigners, had a Mexican cabinet till recently, intended to keep up appearances and deceive those not qualified to judge of the real situation.

Now the usurper has laid aside all dissimulation, and removed the last trace of nationality from his ridiculous government by reducing his ministers to three—war, treasury, and the interior. He has made General Osmont, General Bazaine's chief of staff, minister of war; Mr. Friant, intendant general of the French expeditionary corps to Mexico, is minister of finance; and the minister of the interior is a Mexican traitor, who will soon be removed to give place to some other member of Bazaine's staff.

After this, it is impossible to call the government pretended to be established in Mexico by the French, and headed by Don Fernando Maximilian of Hapsburg, a national government.

The tyranny of the French intervention is now becoming really intolerable. Among the enclosed documents you will see some relating to the press; and you will perceive there is less liberty of the press in those parts of Mexico under the usurper than there is even in France. All the papers that dared to be independent have been suppressed, and none can now be established without express permission from the intruders. Papers that supported intervention are suppressed if they do not approve of every whim of the bogus government. Personal protection is but a shadow in the hands of the usurper. Under pretext of conspiracy, many citizens have been imprisoned, others condemned to severe punishment that will kill them, and all done without trial or permission of defence. The assassination of the Montenegro young men (see 7 and 8) in the State of Jalisco, only because they belonged to a liberal family, is one of the many cases occurring every day in places that have fallen into the invader's hands and remain subject to the usurper's will.

High taxes imposed to sustain the extravagance of the courtly adventurers threaten to ruin the scanty resources still left in the country.

The usurper has just given another unexampled inconsistency, that can hardly be believed; he has granted a pension to the widow of General Zaragoza, the conqueror of the French at Puebla, on the 5th of May, 1862. Thus, and with a view to show that he appreciates the Mexicans, he has tacitly acknowledge the merit of a general who died in defence of his country, fighting against the French, while he condemns those who acted differently. Now, if the Mexicans, fighting for the independence of their country, do not deserve to be considered as belligerents, as the French contend, how is it they honor the memory of one of that army by granting a military pension to his widow? If it was only meant as an act of mercy, without political meaning, giving aid to a needy family, why was it not given in some other way than as a military pension, which certainly acknowledges certain rights of the national army of Mexico, hitherto denied it by the French. They murder General Arteaga for doing his duty as a soldier in defence of his country, while they give a pension to the widow of another general who died in the same good cause.

It is really impossible to see any consistency or good faith in the accomplices of an intrigue engendered by the fraud, inordinate ambition, and other baser passions that move some men.

I embrace the occasion, Mr. Secretary, to renew the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Index of documents sent by the Mexican legation in Washington to the Department of State of the United States, with the note of this date, in relation to recent events in Mexico.

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	1866.	
1	Aug. 13	Extract from the Courrier des Etats Unis of the 13th August, 1866, in New York, quoting scraps from a semi-monthly review of the Estafette relative to the usurper's new cabinet.
2	July 21	Letter from the correspondent of the Messager Franco-Americain in Vera Cruz.
3	Aug. 13	Extract from the Courrier des Etats Unis of an article from the Ere Nouvelle on the suppression of that paper by the usurper.
4	May 6	Decree of the usurper putting obstacles in the way of publishing newspapers.
5	May 26	Decree of the usurper laying high taxes on real estate in cities.
6	May 26	Decree of the same in regard to taxes on landed estates.
7	June 20	Extract from the Boletin de Noticias of Guadalajara, on the assassination of the Montenegro young men, and the want of personal security in any part of the country under the usurper.
8	June 29	Circular of Don José G. Montenegro and wife, publishing the assassination of their son, Diego, for the crime of having a name respected by Mexican patriots.
9	June 6	Orders of the usurper for a draft in the cities of Mexico, Puebla, and Queretaro.
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12	July 6	Fragment from the Diario del Imperio, with the names of those arrested in Mexico and sent to Yucatan without trial.
13	July 20	Letter from Rafael J. Garcia, editor of the Idea Liberal, in Puebla, giving reliable information of the present state of affairs in Mexico.
14	July 20	Letter from the city of Mexico, containing information on the condition of things.
15	July 20	Maximilian's decrees appointing the French Generals Osmont and Iriaut to his cabinet.

F. D. MACIN,
Second Secretary of the Legation.

WASHINGTON, *August* 15, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.—From the Courrier des Etats Unis, of New York, August]13, 1866.]

MEXICO.

The steamer Daniel Webster, that left Vera Cruz the 31st July, arrived at New York the day before yesterday. It brings papers from the capital up to the 27th, containing very interesting news. We borrow a summary of it from the semi-monthly review of the Ere Nouvelle.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

Important resolutions of the emperor Maximilian have been spoken of for some time; but, as rumors of this kind are so often unfounded, we have thought best to await the facts.

The rumor has at length been realized under the form of three decrees inserted in the official journal. The first appoints General Osmont, chief of staff in the expeditionary corps, as minister of war. The second makes Intendant Friant minister of finance. The third suppresses the fomento department, and merges its duties in that of the interior.

The three decrees are accompanied by the following note: "To obtain a prompt and lasting peace in the country, circumstances require unity of action and ideas, the only efficacious remedy in every crisis, according to the reports of history. In order to restore peace and prosperity, to produce important changes for the better, the emperor requires perfect unity; and being convinced that the necessary guarantee to Mexican society requires it, he has given the portfolio of war to the chief of staff of the expeditionary corps, and that of finance to the chief intendant.

"These measures, coinciding with the mission of her majesty the empress, will demonstrate that the government agrees with its glorious allies, and does all the nation could expect to hasten the pacification of the country.

"If all good Mexicans will rally under this banner of peace elevated by the emperor, forgetting party dissensions, which have done so much harm, the nation will soon attain to that prosperity to which it is destined by Providence and its geographical situation."

General Osmont and Intendant Friant possess those qualities best suited to the success of their departments. Mr. Friant will have the hardest task, but his experience and firmness will accomplish what he has undertaken. The fact of his accepting the office is a proof that he will discharge its duties, however difficult they may be.

The department of justice has also been lessened to a simple bureau.

The number of head departments are therefore reduced to three: Osmont is secretary of war, Friant of finance, and Salazar Ilarregui of the interior.

Unity of action will only be more easy and complete.

[Enclosure No. 2.—From the Messager Franco-Americain, of New York, August 11, 1866.]

MEXICO.

[Private correspondence of the Messager.]

VERA CRUZ, *July* 21, 1866.

The departure of the empress Charlotte for Europe, in the last French packet, has caused great grief among the people devoted to the empire. But her departure has been construed into a declaration of a desperate state of affairs in Mexico by the republicans. They have vainly tried to conceal the true cause of a voyage so dangerous to Charlotte, at a time when the yellow fever is raging at Vera Cruz. The Journal de l'Empire vainly affirms that the Belgian princess was on a confidential mission to Europe, "relative to the embarrassed finances of Mexico;" but everybody knows what these assertions are worth.

I must remark in this place, that the foregn merchants in Vera Cruz are in despair at seeing the empire waste away, as it is doing. All the foreigners, French, English, or German, are imperialists; only the North Americans, or Yankees, as we call them, are in favor of Juarez and the republic. With the exception of some liberal and enlightened spirits, the merchants have always fancied that the empire alone could give them order and peace, without which trade is impossible. So, since the fall of Maximilian is threatened, I have heard endless lamentations around me, particularly among my countrymen. But the native merchants are rubbing their hands in joy at the prospective departure of the expeditionary corps. The former see ruin and disaster, where the latter foresee prosperity and wealth. This is because the foreigners in Vera Cruz, as well as those in Mexico, have looked upon Mexico as a conquered country ever since 1862. Both hoped to get rich rapidly at the expense of the native population, relying upon the protection of the authorities, who were always more favorable to them than to the Mexicans. Intervention was a flagrant violation

of popular rights, and of course it caused violations of individual rights. Now if Maximilian falls, all that will change; the government will become national, and will protect Mexicans. That is what frightens our business men.

And besides, they fear the people—always restless in Mexico—will call them to an account for their sympathies with the foreigner. Our people in particular are the objects of the *leperos* knife. Are they right or wrong? That is what I will not undertake to decide; but if their fears are founded, what a terrible responsibility those will have who have excited the popular passions by violating the principles of sovereignty and the independence of the nation! And then, those who welcomed the expedition in 1861, will be the first to curse intervention.

Several regiments of the army of occupation are to leave here in October. The 1st and 3d zouaves, the 62d and 81st of the line, the 18th battalion of infantry hunters, four squadrons of African hunters, one company of engineers, and two artillery batteries are mentioned as about to quit the country for France.

Consequently the expeditionary army will be reduced to one division of infantry, six cavalry squadrons and their artillery reserves. The foreign legion, which is to remain till the last in Mexico, by the convention of Miramar, has been reorganized and increased by a 7th and 8th battalion. According to the Miramar convention, the foreign legion lent by France to Maximilian was to consist of only six battalions; but the two supplementary battalions will not be effective; they will only be composed of officers lent to Mexico for the organization of the cazadores de Mejico, national troops fashioned after our chasseurs à pied.

According to the projects of Marshal Bazaine, which are not likely to be carried out, the cazadores de Mejico will form eight battalions, commanded by leaders of French battalions. The adjutants, captains, drill leaders, lieutenants, and commissary officers, will also be French; and to retain their right to promotion, they will be reckoned in the 7th and 8th battalions of the foreign regiment, consisting solely of officers.

[Enclosure No. 3.—From the Courier des Etats Unis, New York, August 13, 1866.]

INCIDENT OF THE PRESS.

With some reserve, and not without astonishment, we reprinted on Saturday an extract from a correspondence from Mexico addressed to the Times, which says the Ere Nouvelle and the Sociedad were suspended for one month for publishing a criticism upon the Mexican expedition, taken from the Courier des Etats Unis. We have guessed the riddle; it is about an article we took from a Paris paper, not a criticism by the Courier editor, without assuming any responsibility for it, but as a piece of history of the Mexican expedition. Here is the article:

"According to the Paris Presse the emperor Maximilian has once more required the financial assistance of France, declaring his intention to abdicate if it is refused. The French government should have rejected the Mexican emperor's demand, and ordered Marshal Bazaine to call a convention of the people in case of Maximilian's abdication."

The New Era published the above on the 10th of July, with the following comments:

"If the paragraph had originated in an American paper it would not have attracted any notice, but coming from a French journal, it excites much astonishment."

The following notice was served on Mr. Masseras on the 12th:

MEXICO, *July* 12, 1866.

The paragraph in your paper of the 10th instant, taken from the Courier des Etats Unis, originally from the Paris Presse, contains an alarming falsehood. By its publication you violate article three, section second, of the law of the 10th of April, 1865, regulating the press.

Therefore, the civil prefect, by superior order, instructs me to serve this *second notice* on you, to be inserted on the first page of the next number of your paper, which you will suspend for one month, according to article twenty of the law above quoted.

CARLOS ZAVALA,
Secretary General of the Prefecture.

The New Era had been notified only the day previous for publishing false news. Instead of serving a warning upon the editor, as should have been done according to the law quoted, the severest penalty was imposed upon the paper. But that omission gave Mr. Masseras the chance to have the order of suspension countermanded, which was done.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

We have received files of the Diario del Imperio to the 18th of May.

The following decree concerning the establishment of newspapers has been issued by Maximilian:

"ARTICLE 1. For the establishment of any newspaper or publication which is to start at a fixed time or otherwise, and is to be engaged in public affairs, the permission of the authorities will be required; this being only granted by our government, and as our delegates, by the imperial commission or the prefect.

"Our minister of government is charged with the execution of the present decree.

"Given in the city of Mexico, the 6th day of May, 1866.

"MAXIMILIAN."

"For the emperor: The minister of government,

"JOSÉ SALAZAR ILARREGUI."

[Enclosure No. 5.]

Maximilian, emperor of Mexico: Having heard our council of ministers, we decree:

ARTICLE 1. Direct taxes on real estate, in town or country, shall be collected in proportion to its production or income solely, and not in proportion to the amount of capital invested.

ARTICLE 2. The quota of taxation will be the sixth part of the net income of such property, when situated in the city, and the seventh when situated in the country, and it must be paid in three instalments, each in advance, viz: one-third in the first ten days of January, one-third in the first ten days of May, and the remaining third in the first ten days of September of each year.

ARTICLE. 3. To ascertain the net income, the rent which the property ought to produce shall be taken for such, deducting, in case it is situated in the city, 15 per cent. on "houses of the neighborhood," (casas de vecindad,) and 10 per cent. on all others.

ARTICLE. 4. By houses of the neighborhood, for the purposes of the preceding articles, are to be understood those which contain more than three tenants

within the same entrance or exterior door, not including rooms which have separate entrances from the street, (accessorias.) Houses not embraced in this description will not be taken as houses of the neighborhood, (casas de vecindad)

ARTICLE 5. The income which city real estate should produce is the amount of money for which it is rented; and if not rented at the time, the amount for which it last rented.

ARTICLE 6. In cases where the proprietor is the occupant of the property, an equitable sum shall be fixed upon, which shall serve, instead of the rent, as a basis of taxation.

ARTICLE 7. The tax being levied directly upon the property, no subletting will be taken into consideration, the proprietor being taxed solely on the rent he receives from the tenant with whom he deals.

ARTICLE 8. The net income of property in the country which is rented at the time, or which has been rented the next preceding year, will be the total amount of the rent.

ARTICLE 9. Where such property in the country is either not actually rented at the time, or has not been rented the year next preceding, the net income shall be taken to be what remains to the proprietor of the total proceeds, after deducting the expenses of cultivation, harvesting, and preservation.

ARTICLE 10. The proprietor shall file in the register's office a declaration of the amount of the net income thus ascertained; but the office, when the amount in the declaration appears too small, may estimate it anew, and, for this purpose, may require the proprietor to submit to examination his book-balances and other documents calculated to throw light upon the truth.

ARTICLE 11. Country real estate shall be understood to mean all land, with or without a house, within or without the lines of a poblacion, on which any species of agriculture is carried on for purpose of profit.

ARTICLE 12. Haciendas producing metals, salt, or sugar will be taxed like the country property just above mentioned.

ARTICLE 13. The property designated in the following classification will be alone exempt from taxation:

1. National property.
2. Municipal property occupied gratis in the municipal service.
3. Palaces of archbishops, bishops, and houses of curates not belonging to private individuals.
4. Temples of any worship whatsoever and the houses appertaining, inhabited gratis by its ministers, recognized by the state.
5. Those occupied gratis by establishments of public beneficence or instruction which do not belong to individuals who receive rent for them. Real estate belonging to a private individual who receives rent for it, though it should be occupied for the public service or ecclesiastical purposes, or those of instruction or beneficence, will, nevertheless, be subject to taxation.
6. Edifices occupied gratuitously by civil or ecclesiastical corporations authorized or tolerated by the state.
7. Lands or edifices which by special law have been exempted from taxation for a limited time, while within the time of fulfilling the conditions annexed by the law of the exemption.

ARTICLE 14. When the owner of an estate acknowledges, by a special hypothecation of the same, a sum of money for which he must pay interest, whether by instalments, irregular deposits, or in any other mode whatsoever, the said owner shall pay for tax the sixth or seventh part of the rent, according to its being town or country property; but he shall discount to him entitled to receive said interest an equal amount to that which he shall have paid.

ARTICLE 15. All exceptions hitherto made in favor of capital are hereby revoked, and the proprietors will pay the tax, devoting thereto one-sixth of their

income from this source; this whether devoted heretofore to beneficence, public instruction, the national or municipal treasury, religious endowments, or any other object formerly excepted.

ARTICLE 16. No judge nor authority nor public functionary shall entertain any representation or memorial, nor shall any notary public or clerk authenticate any document, relative to the rights which any owner may claim to exercise, unless he can show a receipt for the payment of his taxes, as above prescribed, up to the latest date. When produced, the original receipt will be returned to the owner, after having appended to the memorial or authentication a simple copy of the same, certified to be correct by the judge, authority, or notary public.

ARTICLE 17. As soon as the tax ordained by this decree shall go into operation in any place, all former laws for the taxation of real estate are thereby repealed, except that of the 30th of April for the draining of Mexico, and the municipal laws.

ARTICLE 18. The tax of the drainage will continue to be collected as at present, viz, one-tenth of one per cent.

Given in Mexico, May 26, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 6.]

Maximilian, emperor of Mexico: Having held our council of ministers, we decree:

ARTICLE 1. All cultivated lands in the country will pay annually, besides the tax on their annual production, a half real for every 35,112 metres square, or 50,000 varas square, contained in the whole of their area.

ARTICLE 2. The cultivated lands whose area does not amount to 50,000 varas square, will pay a half real, whatever their extent.

ARTICLE 3. In the contemplation of the preceding articles are included lands in common, and all rural cultivated lands of corporations, communities, and pueblos which have not been reduced to private appropriation by virtue of the law of 25th June, 1856, and which have the character of being legitimately possessed in common, in conformity to the law cited.

ARTICLE 4. Within two months after the publication of this law in the capital of any district, the possessors of country cultivated lands situated in its territory will deposit in the office of registry of direct taxation of the same district a declaration setting forth the land or lands that they possess, with the area which they comprehend and their situation, and name, if they have any. In the office of registry a register will be kept in which will be recorded all these declarations; a certificate of having done so being given to the parties concerned, with an insertion of an extract from the register.

ARTICLE 5. At the expiration of the two months above mentioned, all lands not declared as above prescribed, will be considered wild and unappropriated, and the agents of the administration will proceed to take possession, handing them over to the minister of fomento to dispose of them as he may see proper.

ARTICLE 6. When in the opinion of the agents of the office the area of the land has been underestimated in the declaration, a survey shall be ordered, and the excess of land above the estimate shall be also declared unappropriated. In this case the expenses of the survey shall be defrayed by the owner.

ARTICLE 7. If after declaration made as aforesaid, the posessors of the land should have it surveyed, and should it result that the area as set forth in the declaration was greater than that actually possessed, the amount of taxes paid on the excess will be refunded.

ARTICLE 8. The lands placed at the disposal of the minister of fomento for alienation on account of the owners, on the same terms adopted by the goverm-

ment for the alienation of unappropriated lands of the territory in which they find themselves located, shall be exempt from this tax.

ARTICLE 9. In order to be entitled to the exemption referred to in the preceding article it will be required:

1. To present the minister of fomento with a formal map of the estate of which the lands placed at the disposition of the minister form a part.

2. On the said map the lands placed at the disposal of the minister must be distinctly and definitely delineated.

ARTICLE 10. This tax must be paid every six months in advance, and it will go into operation on the date of its publication.

Given in Mexico, 26th May, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 7.—From the Boletin de Noticias, Guadalajara, June 30, 1866. No. 167.]

SOCIAL GUARANTEES.

We take the following paragraph from a letter dated Zapotlan, 23d instant:

Gregorio Contreras died day before yesterday, at three o'clock in the afternoon, from a shot he received the evening previous at the hands of Rafael Chavez, in Parota street, leading to Ochoa Vazquez's farm, because Contreras would not fight him.

On the same day, and almost at the same hour, men from this city, Zapotiltic, and Tuxpan, caught up with Diego and Matias Montenegro, Faustino Ugarte, and Rosalio Vazquez, near Tecalitlan, and fired upon them with muskets. Matias Montenegro, son of the late Miguel Montenegro, was killed. Diego then dismounted, and going up to his enemies begged for life till he could make out his innocence. He was on his knees, with his hat in his hand, when they shot him dead on the spot. The other two young men had the luck to escape with their lives. This occurrence is well known here, and has caused much alarm. No investigation has been made. The man who committed the deed is named Galindo.

Reliable persons have given us the particulars of the above occurrence. Diego Montenegro, son of old Colonel José Montenegro, was not over sixteen; he was going out to work with his cousin Matias, a little older, at a farm belonging to the latter.

Their murder was of the most atrocious character, and we can readily imagine the consternation it caused in Zapotlan. When the citizens find that neither their lives nor their property is safe from those who ought to defend them, all confidence is lost, and society must lapse into a savage state.

Jalisco has had the sad privilege of witnessing sanguinary sights of that kind for some time past; and we now have to add the Montenegro young men to the names of Murillo, Llamas, Merino, and Alcaraz. The evil increases instead of diminishing. Why is this? We will boldly say, it is because the guilty are not punished. Society is shocked at this shedding of innocent blood, and each one awaits his turn to be sacrificed.

To give a just idea of what is passing in those unhappy towns, let us glance at the past. Last month we spoke of the atrocious and unjust murder of Trinidad Alcaraz, near Zapotlan. After the Payaso had mentioned the event, the prefect of Colima pretended to investigate the affair. Here is the reply of the sub-prefect of Zapotlan, taken from the official paper of Colima:

"CIVIL SUB-PREFECTURE OF ZAPOTLAN,
"*June* 6, 1866.—No. 512.

"DEAR SIR: I received your note of the 4th instant, in which you state that your attention has been called to the mention of the murder of Trinidad Alcaraz, in No. 4 of the Payaso. In reply, I inform you that, on the 24th of April, I

received a communication from the alcalde of Tamazula, saying that on the night of the 17th he received a despatch from the commander of the imperial officers at Matacristos and Alverea, and from Commissioner Reyes Diaz, saying, as he went in pursuit of robbers, Trinidad Alcaraz came out and attacked them with the robbers. Two of the civil officers were killed and several wounded. The robbers then shut themselves up in Trinidad Alcaraz's house. The next day Reyes Diaz came and besieged it. Manual Alcaraz was ordered to give up his son, which was done. Now as he was in league with the robbers, and had been their accomplice of the robbers in their plunders and assassination, even before the war, and had frequently been in jail for murder, and only got off by his great influence, it was decided to shoot him on the spot. The alcalde was opposed to such summary proceedings, and started with the prisoner to Tamazula. On the road he was attacked by an ambuscade, and Trinidad Alcaraz was killed. Reyes Diaz told the alcalde he was a police commissioner, appointed by the prefect of Guadalajara, and he had the power to dispose of all such criminals in a summary way. An investigation of the affair was commenced the next day in Tamazula, and it has not been finished yet.

"All of which I communicate to you for your information. God grant you many years.

"MIGUEL ROBLEDO,
"*District Sub-prefect.*

The SUPERIOR PREFECT *of the department of Colima.*"

From the above communication it is evident Alcaraz was shot in cold blood, and we are tempted to inquire in what kind of society we are living. After this we have nothing more to say; the facts are eloquent.

Colonel Montenegro has our most sincere condolence. In less than three years he has lost three of his sons by violence. We sympathize with him in his grief, and pray for the eternal repose of young Diego's soul.

After the above was written we saw another letter from Zapotlan, from which we take the following:

"As Gregorio Contreras was returning from his farm last night he was attacked and murdered near the city by Rafael Chavez, one of the police appointed by Robledo. The assassin has not yet been arrested, though a warrant has been issued, and he is still in the place. Robledo and Chavez were personal enemies of the deceased; the former hated him because he was a liberal, the latter had a private grudge against him."

This letter says the Montenegro boys were going to Tecalitlan to buy cattle when they were murdered.

[Enclosure No. 8.]

OBITUARY.

GAUDALAJARA, *June* 29, 1866.

J. Gaudalupe Montenegro and wife inform you, with profound grief, that their son Diego, aged sixteen years and five months, was murdered and robbed, on the 21st of this month, by order of the chief authority of Zapotlan, for no other crime than being named Montenegro.

They beg you to pray God for the eternal repose of his soul, and the protection of the lives and property of us unfortunate Mexicans.

(Printed by Brambila.)

[Enclosure No. 9.]

ORDER OF A CONSCRIPTION.

By order of the government measures have been taken in reference to a partial conscription, according to the law of the 21st of November, which institutes conscription, the basis of the military organization of Europe.

The following is the circular which this prefectura has published:

PREFECTURA POLITICA OF THE DISTRICT OF THE VALLEY OF MEXICO,
Mexico, June 6, 1866.

The ministry of gobernacion, under date of yesterday, has addressed to this prefectura the following communication:

His majesty the emperor has decided that, in accordance with articles 2d and 12th of the law of the 1st of November, 1865, the partial conscription, on the terms therein prescribed, shall be proceeded with. This conscription is designed to call into service a certain number of men necessary to the reorganization of several companies. The following is the basis determined on:

On Sunday, the 15th of July of the present year, a draft for 2,300 men will take place in the capital of the district of the Valley of Mexico and in the capitals of the districts of Puebla and Queretaro.

2. The city of Mexico will furnish 1,449 men, Puebla 1,543, and Queretaro 345.

3. The said towns will be exempted from the general conscription which will soon take place throughout the empire.

The draft will take place in accordance with the provisions of the law of the 1st of November, 1865.

I have the honor to communicate this to your excellency, in order that the necessary orders may be transmitted to the respective authorities, according to the decision of his majesty, and to request that you will send me a copy of these orders for the information and action, if necessary, of the ministry under my charge.

The Minister of Gobernacion,
SALAZAR ILARREGUI.—(*L'Estafette.*)

[Enclosure No. 10.]

PENSION TO THE FAMILY OF GENERAL ZARAGOZA.

The Diario del Imperio of yesterday says:

"The widow of General Zaragoza has received a pension, which she justly deserved, in virtue of an existing law that has never been repealed. His majesty could not be so unjust as to refuse a support to orphans.

"This act is just because it is according to law, and generous because it is relief to an unfortunate family. It has given offence politically, which should not have been, as his majesty's sentiments for his glorious allies, the French, are well known.

"It is judging ill of France to think she will be displeased with an act of justice, which is helping a widow with a family. This great nation, that has given so many noble examples of generosity to its enemies, will never deny justice to the relatives of a man with whom it has contended. If it is necessary to give examples, we will remind you that the Bourbon government granted a pension for life to Robespierre's sister, and his Majesty the Emperor Napoleon gives a splendid pension to the Emir Abd el Kader, who fought against France for seventeen years.

"So it will be noble to let this question rest, as it only acknowledges the right of a widow protected by the laws of the land."

[Enclosure No. 11.—From El Pajaro Verde, Mexico, June, 1866.]

A FALSE STEP.

"The Estafette gives the above title to the ratification of the pension voted by the rebels in their congress to the family of Don Ignacio Zaragoza, a notice of which was published in the Sociedad. The Estafette hopes it is a mistake, and that the publication will be contradicted, and then makes these comments:

"If it were a private charity no attention would be paid to it, nobody would object in the least; but the publicity of the affair shows it has a political signification, and each one interprets it after his own fashion. The Juarists say:

"'If Maximilian by this means to confess that General Zaragoza was well-deserving of his country because he resisted the foreign invaders, why does he continue to make war on Juarez, and treat as rebels those who are now following the patriotic traditions of the defender of Puebla? Zarogoza would have fought against him just as he did against Lorencez. The general's glory is our heritage, and we scorn the alms given to his widow. We must tremble now, when they seek to conquer us with pensions!'

"The conservatives, on their part, make the following remarks:

"'As the government raises this monument to the memory of Zaragoza, and publicly proclaims him worthy of the nation's gratitude, we who called for intervention, and chose Maximilian as emperor of Mexico, we who support different men and entertain different opinions, we must be the rascally traitors! Nothing should be given to him who renounces a cause!

"'As to the red breeches, they thought it the strongest investment that could be made of money lent by the French treasury to the Mexican government.'"

The Estafette concludes by declaring the grant a false step, that should not have been taken till the enemy was conquered. It says: "The challenge was accepted; war was declared and is now being waged; the trumpet has sounded, and no friendly feeling or impossible compromise must be mentioned till the contest is over."

The echo of that declaration of the Estafette will be heard for many years to come.

[Enclosure No. 12.]

PERSONS ARRESTED.

The Diario del Imperio says: The government has ordered the arrest of the following persons, disturbers of public peace and order, in conformity with article 77 of the statutes:

Feliciano Chavarria, General José Rojo, Mr. Kampherr, Pedro Echavarria, Augustin Cruz, Augustin Zires, (general,) Manuel M. Puente, Juan Mateos, Ignacio Ramirez, General José de la Parra, Manuel Parada, Gabriel M. Islas, Antonio M. Zamacona, Padre Ordoñez, José M. Arroyo, Joaquin Alcalde, and J. A. Gamboa.

[Enclosure No. 13.]

PUEBLA, *July* 20, 1866.

RESPECTED SIR: * * * * * * *

The Austrian army has been recently organized here and merged into the Mexican army. The men are allowed to choose their arms; $25 bounty is offered to every soldier when he enlists, and the same sum is given when his time is out to pay his expenses home, if he does not choose to remain in Mexico; but if he remains land is given to him.

* * * * * * *

The circular letter of the Montenegro family, in Guadalajara, the original of which I send you, with the Boletin de Guadalajara, will give you an idea of the true state of affairs in Mexico. The Sociedad published the document and got a warning for it, and is now suspended for a month for publishing a paragraph taken from the Courrier of New York, that took it from the Paris Presse. It wanted to supply its suppression by a Boletin, but only one number was printed.

* * * * * * *

The Noticioso and the Diablo Predicador, of Vera Cruz, have been suppressed; and it is thought that in less than a month there will be no other papers in the country than French and official journals.

* * * * * * *

The following persons have been arrested in Mexico and transported to Yucatan without any reasons for the act:

Ignacio Ramirez, Joaquin Alcalde, Manuel S. Parada, Gabriel M. Yslas, Juan Mateos, Pedro Echeverria, Antonio Zamacona, Manuel Morales Puente, José Miguel Arroyo, Generals Augustin Zires, John Kamper, Feliciano Chavarria, José Maria Rojo, Augustin Cruz, José Parra, and Priest Ordoñez. These prisoners arrived at Puebla on the 17th, at midnight, in two coaches, escorted by militia, and continued their journey in a few hours. They were kept in the Conception military prison, and were not permitted to see anybody. * *

The escort had orders to shoot any that attempted to escape, or any who might try to rescue them. It is said seventy others, whose names are down in Mexico, will soon follow these, and forty-eight leave here to-day with the escort for Yucatan. They are the insurgents of the Palma ward, and those who stoned the tables set out for the draft. The government of this city has followed the example of the capital and ordered the arrest of many persons here, and I am among the first. * * * * *

Those ordered to be arrested at the same time with me are, most of them, in prison, and will soon be on their way to Yucatan.

* * * * * * *

The liberals seized the garrison of Papantla, as you know, and took possession of the town. A column of 500 men with three pieces of artillery was sent to recover it. The liberals allowed them to come in, and then surrounded them, and forced them to surrender, taking all their arms, ammunition, and provisions. The officers of the traitors were shot, the Austrians were kept in prison, and the common soldiers were released.

* * * * * * *

I may be excused for calling your attention to the situation of the country where there is no national government, but one forced upon the people by French bayonets. There is no freedom of the press; no personal security; no guarantees of any kind. Everybody is persecuted; anarchy and tyranny prevail everywhere. It is not strange that the country is excited—that an eruption is breaking out which will cost much blood and many tears.

* * * * * * *

Your very obedient servant,

RAFAEL J. GARCIA.

Mr. MATIAS ROMERO, *in Washington.*

WASHINGTON, *August* 15, 1866.

A true copy:

F. D. MACIN,
Second Secretary of the Legation.

[Enclosure No. 14.—From the New York Tribune of August 16, 1866.]

CITY OF MEXICO, *July* 20, 1866.

Great excitement has been occasioned in all the principal cities by the order for a draft to fill up the imperialist army. The modes of raising troops under the republic were voluntary enlistment or *leva*, which latter process, resembling the old English impressment for the naval service, was merely the sending out of an armed force and making a general, indiscriminate "gobble up" of every able-bodied male, to put him incontinently into the ranks—to run away, of course, on the first suitable occasion. In lieu of this system, the emperor decreed a draft or conscription, by lot, with the usual provisions for exemption, and also one for paying four hundred dollars to the government for a substitute for a drafted man. Neither fighting nor paying money being a favorite occupation with Mexican townspeople, a stampede from the towns to the mountains or other hiding places had begun. A journal of Queretaro states that it was so general in that city, among all classes, that on the day appointed for the draft probably none but the exempts would be left. A like exodus had commenced in Mexico and Puebla, as the 15th of July had been announced as the day on which the lottery for the honor of bearing arms was to come off. Before that day arrived it was postponed, and finally the official Diario of the 19th declared that the entire draft had been indefinitely postponed as "unnecessary." The announcement contains many pretty reflections on the glory of defending one's country, and the equity and advantages of a draft; but says that inasmuch as the authorities in the provinces had represented to the emperor that the rural guards, already disciplined, sufficed for the desired increase of the army, the draft would only give them raw troops in greater numbers than the service required.

The Estafette gave publicity to some strange rumors in reference to General Almonte, formerly the chief of the monarchical party in Mexico, and head of the regency prior to Maximilian's arrival in the country. These rumors were that the general, on his way last winter to France, as Mexican ambassador to that country, called on Santa Anna at St. Thomas, and had a protracted interview with the exiled chieftain, the result of which was a secret union of those two former bitter enemies, with a view to dethroning Maximilian. The official Diario of July 17 noticed in a few lines these rumors, and queerly adds: "We can affirm that we know of no foundation for any such reports." One of its cotemporaries calls attention to the singular wording of this denial, and adds: "Until the Diario shall have said there is no foundation for the reports, we incline to believe them."

It has long been known to those acquainted with Mexican affairs that Almonte was very dissatisfied. He had received from the emperor Maximilian high court positions, but seemed to be excluded from employments of real power and influence, until his recent appointment as ambassador to Louis Napoleon. There is also, we believe, no doubt that on his way to Paris he and General Brincourt, of the French army in Mexico, paid Santa Anna a long visit.

Private advices received in this city state that Almonte's desertion of the emperor and complicity with Santa Anna were generally believed in well-informed circles in that city, and at one time it was expected that a decree would appear depriving him of his employments and outlawing him. It was further asserted that he had used his position at Paris to influence the French Emperor against Maximilian; that his intrigues had been disclosed to the empress Carlotta in a letter from no less a personage than the Empress Eugenie, who advised her sister of Mexico to counteract them in person; and that that letter occasioned the abrupt departure of the latter for Paris during the absence of Marshal Bazaine on his journey to northern Mexico, and without consulting the wishes or opinions of the French. The Mexican minister of foreign affairs, Señor de Castillo, accompanied the empress Carlotta on her European journey.

The same number of the Diario gives a list of persons arrested in the city of Mexico on July 15, on the charge of conspiring to disturb the public peace and order Their names are as follows: Generals José Rojo, Agustin Zires and José de la Parra, the Padre Ordoñez, Messrs. Feliciano Chavarri, Wampher, Pedro Echevarria, Agustin Cruz, Manuel Morales Puente, Juan Mateos, Ignacio Ramirez, Manuel Parada, Gabriel Maria Islas, Antonio Maria Zamacona, José Miguel Arroyo, and Joaquin Alcalde.

Most of these persons are partisans of Santa Anna the rest are active liberals. Señor Arroyo was assistant secretary of state under Santa Anna's last dictatorship, and the Padre Arroyo is one of his most devoted partisans. All the prisoners, except the padre, whose illness precluded his removal, were sent off on July 17 to Yucatan, the Mexican Dry Tortugas.

The French journals, the Estafette and Ere Nouvelle, are jubilant over the emperor's change of policy. The former, of July 27, says:

"In presence of the enmities exhibited against the empire, and of the dangers which threaten it, the direction of public affairs should not remain in irresolute hands. It is necessary to oppose the audacity of the insurgents with calm and inflexible energy, disorders with the action of justice, the excesses of the oligarchs with effectual repression, and secret intrigues with a command to cease.

"It would be a disgrace to the empire to remain inert and vacillating; it would be intolerable to think that a flag honored in every quarter should be derided and scoffed at with impunity. That flag, whether it shall withdraw soon or late, must leave behind it glorious memories, and command respect from both friends and foes.

"A monarchy cannot be founded on plunder and with supporters of anarchy; the empire should seek in the stanch imperialists its defenders and active leaders. It was high time to do so; but it is not too late; the adoption of a resolute and consistent policy may still secure both the present and the future. The close alliance between the empire and the French army will give to Mexico the force and credit sufficient to overcome all enemies and frustrate all plots.

"The Juarists, Ortegists, and Santanists have declared open war, war without quarter, against the imperial government and the French flag. The war is accepted, and will be carried on as it should be. This is the meaning of the new ministry. The game is regularly begun, and swords are trumps."

The Pajaro Verde, (organ of the Church party,) in its number of July 28, quotes the above editorial, and adds:

"Our readers will understand the deep significance of the words of the Estafette; we are able to add that his majesty, on last Wednesday night, remarked to some very distinguished persons who dined at his table, that the lovers of order would, within a few days, have cause to be satisfied. We will not assume to interpret the imperial words; our readers, learning of them and aware of recent events, will know how to attach to them the very highest value."

[Enclosure No. 15.]

Maximilian, emperor of Mexico:

In consideration of the merits and good qualities of Mr. Friant, chief intendant of the expeditionary corps, we have been pleased to confer upon him the office of minister of finance.

Given in Mexico the 26th July, 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

By the emperor:

JOSÉ SALAZAR ILARREGUI,
Minister of Government.

Maximilian, emperor of Mexico:

In order to save expenses to the public treasury, we have been pleased to direct that the department of fomento be temporarily annexed to that of gobernacion.

Our minister of the interior is charged with the execution of this decree.

Given in Mexico the 26th July, 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

By the emperor:

JOSÉ SALAZAR ILARREGUI,
Minister of Government.

Maximilian, emperor of Mexico:

In consideration of the merits and good qualities of General Osmont, chief of staff and major general of the expeditionary corps, we have been pleased to confer upon him the office of minister of war.

Given in Mexico 26th July, 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

By the emperor:

JOSÉ SALAZAR ILARREGUI,
Minister of Government.

No. 37.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 23, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 15th instant, containing certain information extracted from Mexican and New York papers, on the subject of the condition of affairs in Mexico up to the end of last month, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

Letter from President Juarez.

EL PASO, *December* 28, 1865.

MY DEAR SIR: I have received your favor of the 12th of October, in which you acknowledge receipt of mine of 17th of August. You will soon receive, if it is not already in your hands, the one I sent you in November, announcing the withdrawal of the French from Chihuahua and other points on this frontier, and my departure for the capital of this State, where I arrived on the 20th of that month. A few days afterwards, however, and without our being able, up to the present time, to learn the object of so many marches and countermarches, the enemy again commenced a new expedition to reoccupy Chihuahua, which took place on the 11th. On the 9th I left there, and on the 18th arrived here without incident. By these movements the enemy has in no way improved his situation; he is only consuming his last resources and demoralizing his forces. With

the attitude that the government of the United States has lately assumed, Maximilian has now not the slightest probability of cementing his so-called throne. He must see very clearly that even should he arrive at the complete conquest of the country, occupying with his forces, even to the utmost limits of the republic, and destroying the national government, which, however, will never take place, the United States will never permit him to consolidate his power, and his sacrifices and his victories will have counted for nothing. This certain result is already in the conviction of all. It has augmented the increasing discouragement of our opponents, and has reanimated the public spirit on our side to such an extent that, in my judgment, without the necessity of the United States taking any direct part in our war, we shall ourselves alone be able to obtain the definitive triumph of the cause of the national independence. Such is my desire, and to such result all my efforts are directed. Although Napoleon, from his pride and the habitual depreciation with which he has treated us, may not be ready to propose terms, yet the time is soon coming when he will be glad to accept those we proposed before the war. For ourselves, we will neither propose nor accept anything, absolutely nothing, which, in the slightest degree, can imply any recognition of the intervention, or that may be contrary to the honor and dignity of the country. Have but a little patience, and the time will soon come when you can return to our country, free at last from all its oppressors.

Truly, your friend,

BENITO JUAREZ.

LONDON, *April* 29, 1865.

SIR: I have witnessed with profound admiration and sympathy the heroism and energy with which the Mexican people have resisted the criminal and arrogant attempts of the Man of December to impose the yoke of an Austrian adventurer upon their free and independent country. The outrages perpetrated by such "good Catholics and good Christians" as Forey and his murderous myrmidons have tarnished the lustre of the French character with the indelible stain of lawless inhumanity, but have not surprised those who remember the unparalleled effrontry with which he conveyed in felons' vans to loathsome dungeons all that was illustrious and venerable in his own degraded and downtrodden country. At that unhappy and unauspicious epoch (1851) patriotism and virtue were relentlessly proscribed, and perjury and recklessness rewarded by elevation to the highest honors of the State; unprincipled men were loaded with wealth and titles for daring and deplorable outrages which merited the gallows, the guillotine, or the treadmill. Had M. Bonaparte not succeeded, he would have been justly sentenced to sweep the streets of Paris in the garb of a criminal, instead of drenching them with the blood of the innocent and unarmed.

We must not presume to arraign the decrees of an all-wise and inscrutable Providence; but there can be no doubt that the treasons and triumphs of that man are more reconcilable with the vengeance than the clemency of the Divine Being. He has been an instrument in the hands of the Almighty for loading France with debt, corrupting the morals of the rising generation by the example of a prodigal and profligate court, and, to the eternal disgrace of its timid and truckling sovereigns, sees Europe at his feet.

Your undaunted intrepidity and stern defiance, sir, ought to raise a blush on the cheeks of these degenerate and degraded monarchs. The perseverence and magnanimity with which you have on all occasions found fresh resources under defeats and difficulties, and resisted the most criminal and cowardly aggression ever attempted by heartless and capricious ambition, entitle you to the respect and sympathy of every honorable mind, and your name will hereafter be en-

rolled among the gallant and glorious champions of national freedom and independence. I have, during several years, been contemplating the sanguinary scenes by which the Foreys and Bazaines have brought infamy upon the French name with feelings of abhorrence and disgust, and now take the liberty to request your acceptance of a pamphlet, in which I have recently endeavored to hold up to public scorn their atrocious and unprincipled acts.

This country is still ringing from one end to the other with the unanimous expressions of indignation which the base and brutal murder of President Lincoln was so well calculated to elicit. At the same time, while anxious to do the most ample justice to the virtues and services of the late excellent and estimable ruler of the great and glorious American republic, I am inclined to hope that President Johnson will lose no time in assuming a more decided and determinate tone in reference to the affairs of Mexico. He is no doubt well aware that the Man of December would never have attempted this flagitious and unpardonable outrage had America remained peaceful and united, but that he took a selfish, sinister advantage of her internal divisions to perpetrate an act only surpassed in lawlessness and arrogance by the crime of 1851. This feeling, I rejoice to perceive, appears to predominate amongst the American senators, who must be convinced that this perfidious and piratical invasion was as much an insult to the United States as an outrage upon the Mexican republic.

I understand that President Johnson, with his characteristic and outspoken manliness, has expressed himself very strongly on this subject, and that the enforcement of the Monroe doctrine (of which I cordially approve) will be one of the primary objects to which his attention will be directed. American patriots have a far better right to defend a popular and universally acknowledged republic than the Man of December has to force a spurious monarchy upon a resisting and exasperated people. I purposely name the Man of December, instead of doing to a great nation the injustice of ascribing this flagitious act to France.

The French people, with the exception of the tools and toadies of despotism, are almost unanimous in repudiating this Quixotic expedition; and I believe that the march of an American army of 100,000 men for the liberation of Mexico would excite such a storm of indignation against the French ruler as would lead to his speedy downfall, and restore the blessing of freedom, not only to Mexico, but to France itself, which is already beginning to chafe under the arbitrary and pernicious influence of a yoke to which they have too long and too tamely submitted.

I have the honor to remain, with the highest respect for your character, and the most cordial wishes for your success, your very obedient and devoted servant,

GEORGE SINCLAIR.

No. 38.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, August 26, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, No. 21 of the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, dated the 20th July last, and containing a brief and correct account of events in the city of Parral, State of Chihuahua, which occurred in the months of March and April of this year, while

the French were in possession of that portion of the country. It will give you some idea of the outrages of all kinds committed by the French troops upon a defenceless and peaceable population, who are guilty before the interventionists of the crime of loving their country.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, &c., &c., &c.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

NOTES FOR THE HISTORY OF THE FRENCH INTERVENTION.

The decree of the 3d of October was published at Parral on the 2d of March. There was a dance that night at Allende, attended mostly by the town people. Some of the attendants, excited by the hate they all have for the empire, shouted for the republic and disarmed the imperial guard. The greater part of the citizens then assembled, and, fearing some disturbance, Don Guadalupe Soto, a man of note in the place, put himself at the head of the insurgents.

When troops came from Parral, Soto, having no arms or ammunition, fell back to Atotonilco, where he asked aid of Augustin Vasquez to attack the imperialists, or, at least, to give him arms. Vasquez refused, because he had no orders from the State governor, with whom he was in communication.

The prefect of Parral, in the mean time, had published a circular addressed to the chief citizens, notifying them to furnish a man mounted and armed, for each family, to defend the place. This order was partly obeyed.

The rural guard and some infantry came from the valley, under Guillermo Ortiz, to attack Soto, while he was trying to surprise them. The two parties met at Amoles Secos, and after a few shots the rustics scattered, and Soto fell back with the loss of eighteen prisoners and a few wounded. The imperial forces then went back to Parral with the prisoners and arms they had captured.

About the middle of March Soto again marched to the valley, and had an interview with Vasquez, who had received orders from General Terrazas to occupy Parral. When they had joined, the latter took command of the column.

As soon as the prefect of Parral learned that Soto and Vasquez were at El Valle he assembled the rural guard and, on the evening of the 20th, issued an order for all the inhabitants to assemble, armed, at eight o'clock, under penalty of the decree of the 3d of October. Nobody obeyed the order.

The next day, at two o'clock, another order was published, commanding those who had not responded to the call of the day previous to send two armed men to the prefecture at six o'clock that evening, else be subjected to a fine of two hundred or two thousand dollars and be condemned to public works from one to six months. In spite of the severity of these penalties very few persons obeyed the order.

On the 22d, at noon, the advance of the imperialists heard that the troops of Vasquez and Soto had passed Alamillo. The imperial troops sallied out at once to attack the assaulters from the cemetery heights. The rural guard scattered. The force that had remained in the palace also dispersed. They were composed of a few armed men commanded by some merchants. A few soldiers remained in the Rayo church, guarding the Valle prisoners. About two in the afternoon the battle began in the edge of the town. The assaulters were in two columns. That under Vasquez entered the St. Nicolas side, while Soto's, driving back the enemy, came in by the Rayo church.

Bonifacio Pavia, the commander, falling back, tried to reach the palace, but he fell near the market, before he got to the square. Commander Ortiz, some

distance behind Pavia, could not come up with him, and fell back to the Rayo church. Vasquez, wishing to save life, sent a flag of parley to Commander Ortiz. Vicente Ochoa had charge of it. He took a white flag and started towards the church. When Ortiz recognized Ochoa he came out to meet him. Hostilities were suspended while the terms of capitulation were arranged between Ortiz and Vasquez at the house of the latter. The chiefs signed the capitulation at six o'clock in the evening. By it Ortiz was allowed to retire with the eighteen men he had left as an escort for four days. The men who surrendered refused to follow their commander, so he had to leave alone, after giving up the eighteen arms.

The next day Vasquez, as civil chief of the district, proceeded to appoint constitutional authorities.

News of the capture of Chihuahua was received on the 27th, and the city was illuminated the next night.

On the 30th news reached us that a French force had arrived at Cerro Gordo, but the number of men was not ascertained. That day Vasquez asked two thousand dollars of the merchants, to be paid the next day.

On the 31st the town was alarmed, at seven and a half at night, by some shots in the direction of Rayo hill. It was an express meseenger from Rio Florida, bringing the news that 831 French had reached that place. The constitutional forces fell back towards Chihuahua.

On the 2d of April, at half past ten in the morning, 381 French and some of the scattered imperialists of Chihuahua and Parral, under Alvisi, came into the town. He went to several houses to hunt quarters for his officers, and threatened and insulted the owners and persons living in them, without even regard for the ladies.

On the 3d a meeting of the city council was called to compel the people to restore the beds and cots the French had left in the hospital when they quit the place. These beds had been furnished by the merchants of the place.

On the 4th the house of José M. Muñoz was destroyed, his goods, furniture, and clothing burned, only because some drunken men and low women said he shot Pavia from the door of his house. This sentence was executed without the least investigation of the case, either by a civil court or military authority.

On the same day the civil prefect put out the following circular:

HIDALGO, *April* 4, 1866.

The commander in chief of the French forces orders that all merchants and important personages of the city assemble in the Council Hall, fronting on the public square, at two o'clock to-morrow, without fail. Those unable to attend from absence, sickness, or other causes, will send substitutes, with their excuses. Those who refuse to attend will be arrested and imprisoned, and their property confiscated; and if they desert, their houses will be burned.

INOCENTE RUBIO, *Prefect.*
FRANCISCO HOLGUIN, *Secretary.*

The meeting did not take place on the 5th, on account of the absence of some of those summoned, and was postponed to the 6th. At noon on that day they were all present but two. The colonel ordered the list to be read, and made the following remarks:

"GENTLEMEN: I will be brief with you, that you may return to your business. I regret I have not the eloquence of Periera, the highwayman, when he spoke in this hall, and said: 'The French are quitting the country, and it will not be necessary for us to come back here;' but we promised to come, and we have kept our word. I am sorry the people did not obey the orders of the prefect,

but have shown a preference for the bandits, for those who come here as robbers. They came to rob and pillage, and if they did not commit all sorts of outrages, it was because their leaders had hard work to prevent them. The merchants will not aid brave men to defend them from robbers; will not furnish arms, while they gave the robbers all they wanted. Some person gave twenty-five arms, and some merchants helped them, by shooting the loyalists in the back I know the names and rank of those persons, but I do not now mention them, because I have no proof; when I have, they shall be shot in the public square. I know of others who told the enemy of my movements. I know their names, and will tell them to remember I shot Esquibel at Rio Florido, for informing the enemy of my movements.

"It is said that Terrazas is coming to attack us. Terrazas may be a man of courage, but his men are all robbers, no better than those who left here. Let them come; it is just what we want. If they come, we will show them we can defend ourselves, and that we will never surrender. If I find it necessary, I will take possession of private houses, and make every citizen take up arms in his own defence.

"General Castagny has ordered me to impose a loan of forty thousand dollars upon this place, to be paid within twenty-four hours; but, as I know it would be hard to raise that sum in so short a time, I grant three days for its payment.

"The contributions will be apportioned according to the wealth of each individual, and his behavior. I know how some have behaved. A committee, composed of the civil prefect, president of the council, and revenue collector is assigned to the duty of assessing the contributions. The money so collected is to pay the imperial forces of the sixth military division. No person is exempt from this contribution, for I am in the habit of carrying out the orders I receive, and I warn every one to contribute according to his means.

"Those who refuse to pay will be imprisoned; their goods, furniture, and clothes will be sold at public auction, and if there are no bidders, which is very likely to be, they shall be burned in the street. Besides this contribution, the whole town must pay two thousand dollars for the support of the families of those who died in defence of the empire, and it shall be distributed by the head of the revenue. All persons having arms fit for the service of the rural guards shall give them up within twenty-four hours, under a severe penalty. No one need try to hide the arms, for a domiciliary search shall be made."

This sum was collected from the liberals; not one interventionist was taxed! The contributions were high, compared to the wealth of the inhabitants. Persons whose capital was chiefly in credits were taxed two thousand dollars. One man was fined two thousand dollars for giving a ball and not inviting the intervention authorities; and this was before Vasquez took possession of the place. Another man was fined for beckoning the besiegers with his hat from the house-top; others, because they were said to have furnished arms to the enemy; some for lodging liberal chiefs in their houses; and all for false information attributed on account of their known political principles.

Some, thinking their taxes too onerous, attempted remonstrance, but they were not listened to. After all, only $32,080 were raised. It was impossible to pay this in gold and silver, so copper coin was taken at six per cent. additional.

By five o'clock on the evening of the 10th the money was paid, and very few deductions were made from the original quotas. Out of three who refused to pay, one was put in jail, two ran off, and the furniture and clothes of all were burned in the streets. Deducting this loss, only $33,000 was collected, much of it in copper.

On the eleventh, three companies of infantry were sent to Valle and Atotonilco. Five thousand dollars was assessed on the former of these places, and this notice was stuck up :

"PUBLIC NOTICE.

"Colonel Alvisi, commander of Parral, having heard that it is the habit of the people of this town to shout for the liberals, and insult the constituted authorities whenever the French forces are not present, and that the public mails have been stopped—now as this conduct is intolerable, I have been ordered to remedy these evils in a summary way, and I therefore warn the inhabitants of this district that, if the authorities are again insulted, the mails interrupted, or treasonable language used publicly, the town shall be burned, the fruit trees cut down, and the severest punishment inflicted upon the guilty persons.

"For general information, I order this notice to be published in triplicate, in the most public places.

"Town of Allende, April 16, 1866.

"DIDIER,
"*Commander of the Town.*"

Atotonilco was almost totally destroyed by fire ; only a few hours were allowed to the citizens to take out a few things for personal use. As the time was so short, not much was saved from the devouring element.

A portion of this force went to Talamantes, and the rest took the road to Iturralde. The first division commenced by burning Bruno Soto's house, and the family could get nothing out of it. Provisions, furniture, clothing, everything was burned. When the fire had taken well, the troops withdrew.

The troops that went to Iturralde surrounded Urquidi's houses, at a distance, and marched up. The French commander arrested the Urquidis and took them to Parral, where they were imprisoned in the centre of the town, allowing no communication except with relatives, who must have a special permit. They have not been informed of the cause of their imprisonment.

On the 16th it was reported that General Terrazas was at Santa Rosalia with his whole force. At this the French redoubled their vigilance, collected provisions and water, and most of the inhabitants went into the country.

In three days the panic was over, and the families returned to their houses in town.

N * * * *

PARRAL, *April* 20, 1866.

No. 39.

Mr. Hunter to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 30, 1866.

SIR : I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 26th instant, containing No. 21 of the official paper of your government, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

W. HUNTER.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 40.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, August 27, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, the documents expressed in the annexed index, which I received from the city of Mexico by the last Vera Cruz steamer, showing the situation of affairs in the portion of Mexico groaning under the rule established by the intervention.

I call your attention to a circular in French, addressed by the usurper Ferdinand Maximilian to various French agents, about the end of July last, which places beyond doubt, if there ever was any, that the so-called imperial government is not, nor ever has been, anything else than a French military government.

Moreover, what the French papers say of Jalapa and of the valley of Toluca is equally applicable to all that portion of the Mexican republic occupied by the invading army.

I embrace the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Index of documents sent by the Mexican legation in Washington to the Department of State of the United States, with the note of this date, on the state of affairs in the city of Mexico.

No.	Date.	Contents.
	1866.	
1	July 30	Circular from the private cabinet of the usurper, Maximilian, to the French employés, explaining its policy.
2	July 30	Decree of the usurper declaring the State of Michoacan to be in a state of siege.
3	July 30	Decree of the usurper declaring the States of Puebla, Tlaxcala, and part of Vera Cruz to be in a state of siege.
4	July 30	Decree of the usurper placing the police force under command of a French officer.
5	Aug. 1	Decree of Don J. Calderon declaring Jalapa to be in a state of siege.
6	Aug. 7	An article from the Estafette, the organ of the French army in Mexico, on the situation in Jalapa.
7	Aug. 1	A private letter in the Estafette on the situation in the valley of Toluca.
8	Aug. 1	An article from the Pajaro Verde, an intervention paper in Mexico, stating that the eighty-first regiment of the line of the French army will remain in Mexico at the service of the usurper.

C. ROMERO,
Attaché to the Legation.

WASHINGTON, *August* 27, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

On the eve of the departure of the French troops, while the country is in anticipation of trouble, the emperor has been solicited to make some reforms; but faithful to his antecedents, which have been badly represented, only taking coun-

sel of his conscience and his devotion to his people and the policy of the Emperor Napoleon in America, his majesty has rejected everything that seems to oppose his intimate alliance with France. He has always desired, and still desires, that the great conception of European and Mexican patriotism that produced the empire may be accomplished. As he is not moved by any consideration of personal interest or vain renown, his sacrifice to duty will always be easy.

His ideas, his creed, his policy, all have been affirmed by acts which place their author in perfect accord with French ideas.

The cabinet has been modified General Osmont and Intendant Friant have been taken into it, yet remaining at the head of their respective services in the expeditionary corps, the former as minister of war and the latter as minister of finance. Mr. Salazar Ilarregui, the firm and constant partisan of intervention, keeps the portfolio of the interior. The other departments, of secondary importance, are put in charge of under secretaries of state.

The emperor's policy is explicitly set forth in the following passage in a letter which he addressed to Mr. Salazar Ilarregui:

"My programme is simply this: energy with and protection to honest peaceful people at home; an intimate alliance with France abroad. I know these are your ideas, too, and I depend on your patriotism to carry them out."

What could be more positive and more simple! Such a declaration admits of no comment. To discuss it would be to weaken it.

We have nothing more to add except that it borrows a new strength from the letter of the emperor to Marshal Bazaine, informing him of the change he had effected in the mechanism of his government.

The emperor of Mexico places all the disposable resources for the pacification of the country into the hands of the commander-in-chief of the French expeditionary corps. He delegates much of his authority to him in allowing him to declare a siege and to discharge officials whom he may consider incompetent, and to replace them by others.

Thus the door is closed to every ambiguity, mistake, or accusation of declared enemies, or flattery of pretended friends.

The emperor Maximilian, constant in a line of conduct that history will reveal in its true light, has given, of his own accord, the best guarantee he could offer to France. His good will and self-denial will be justly appreciated by the eminent statesmen who participate in the councils of Napoleon; and we may say even now that the situation, all embarrassing elements being removed, will be safe if everybody follows the exalted example and does his own duty.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

Maximilian, emperor of Mexico:

Considering that the departments of Michoacan and Tancitaro are now threatened by bands of malefactors that disturb order, destroy property, terrify the people, and disturb that tranquillity and security that reigns in the centre of the empire; considering it is our duty to protect and give aid to all the citizens in every way within our power, and by every means allowed by law; in accordance with the decree of the 16th of September, 1865, and with the opinion of our council of ministers, we decree as follows:

ARTICLE 1. The departments of Michoacan and Tancitaro are declared to be in a state of siege.

ART. 2. General Mendez is charged with the commandof those departments: the first is temporarily withdrawn from the 1st military division, and the second from the 4th.

ART. 3. In conformity with powers granted by the decree of the 16th September, 1865, article 4, the towns will preserve their organizations in order to carry out the commands of the military authorities.

ART. 4. Two councils of war shall be established in the territory under command of General Mendez.

Our ministers of war and government are charged with the execution of the present decree in its corresponding parts.

Given in Mexico the 30th of July, 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

By the emperor:

JOSÉ SALAZAR ILARREGUI,
Minister of Government.
AD. OSMONT, *Minister of War.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

Maximilian, emperor of Mexico:

Considering that the departments of Tuxpan and Tulancingo as well as the district of Zacatlan, in the department of Tlaxcala, are threatened by bands of malefactors; considering that this disturbance is caused by persons who favor smuggling to the injury of the nation in general and of its citizens; considering it is our duty to keep peace in those localities by every means in our power which the law provides, and to put a stop to this robbery of the public treasury, by the decree of the 16th September, 1865, and the opinion of our council of ministers, we decree as follows:

ARTICLE 1. The departments of Tuxpan and Tulancingo, as well as the district of Zacatlan, in the department of Tlaxcala, are declared to be in a state of siege.

ARTICLE 2. Brigadier General Count Thun is charged with the exclusive command of these departments and the district, with his headquarters at Tulancingo.

ARTICLE 3. A council of war shall be established at Tulancingo.

ARTICLE 4. In conformity with powers granted by the decree of the 16th September, 1865, article 4, the towns will preserve their organizations in order to carry out the commands of the military authorities.

Our ministers of war and government are charged with the execution of the present decree in its corresponding parts.

Given in Mexico, on the 30th July, 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

By the emperor:

JOSÉ SALAZAR ILARREGUI,
Minister of Government.
AD. OSMONT, *Minister of War.*

[Enclosure No. 4]

Maximilian, emperor of Mexico:

Having heard our council of ministers, and considering the inertia of public affairs in the empire; knowing it is our first and greatest duty to protect persons and property, and punish disturbers of the public peace, and desiring to concentrate the imperial police under one chief, we have decreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1. The police is directly subject to our minister of government.

ARTICLE 2. Wherever there is a force of gendarmery, the municipal police shall be under it, giving aid to and receiving orders therefrom.

ARTICLE 3. Baron Tindal, lieutenant colonel of gendarmery, is hereby named director for the valley of Mexico, and especially charged with the public safety.

ARTICLE 4. He is also invested with plenary powers to execute the duties of his office. Our minister of government is charged with the execution of this decree.

Given in the palace of Mexico, on the 30th July, 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

By the emperor:

JOSÉ SALAZAR ILARREGUI,
Minister of Government.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

WARNING.

JALAPA, *August* 1, 1866.

On account of recent events General Calderon has been pleased to issue the following notice:

General Juan Calderon, supreme commander in the districts of Vera Cruz and Jalapa, makes known to the inhabitants of the latter city, that as the place is threatened by enemies of the government of his imperial majesty, and it being my duty to preserve order and public peace at all risks, I have been pleased to order the observance of the following regulations from this time forward:

1. After sunset no person is permitted to ride through the city on horseback, except those in military service and on duty, and the police.

2. All assemblages of more than two persons, of those known publicly as hostile to the present government, are hereby prohibited.

3. Violation of the above regulations shall be punished as the police laws declare.

J. CALDERON.

[Enclosure No. 6.—Extract from the Sociedad, Mexico, August 8, 1866.]

The Estafette published yesterday these brief but alarming lines:

"From Matamoras to Alvarado the whole eastern coast is in revolt. Tampico is held by the rebels; the robbers threaten the gates of Vera Cruz; Jalapa is besieged, and the treasury is empty.

"In this emergency the only alternative for the government is to raise money or break up."

The same paper publishes this letter of the 3d August, from Jalapa:

"Your last letter reached me by the merest accident, and it is one of the few that have come through the rebel bands that surround the city, and have intercepted every communication for the last twelve days.

"News from the city of Mexico has somewhat revived the dejected citizens, for they were much discouraged by rumors of danger threatening the capital.

"Nobody has ventured out of town for some days. The enemy, of four or five hundred at least, approach the town and fire upon harmless citizens, and then go back to their camp only a league off, certain they will not be pursued. In fact, General Calderon, commander here, has not enough forces to defend the place, and we hear of no re-enforcements.

"On the other hand, a new revolution is whispered, and if it breaks out you may imagine what will become of Jalapa.

"Chacon is on the south of the city, Ochoa on the west, and Murieta on the northwest, with forces of 150 or 200 men each."

[Enclosure No. 7.—Extract from the Sociedad, Mexico, August 5, 1866.]

The Era, speaking of the bad situation of the valley of Toluca, publishes the following paragraphs from a letter dated in Tenancingo, the 1st of August:

"The people of Zacualpan are more lucky than us in getting Juan Lechuga, the former sub-prefect, restored to his old place.

"We are in constant alarm here, fearing every moment the rebels from San Gaspar may come down upon us in considerable numbers. The danger is imminent, and I myself had to go to inform the authorities of Toluca of it.

"The whole valley of Toluca is in a deplorable condition, and it could not be otherwise. If the government does not attend to them soon, the robbers will ruin all the farms that furnish the capital with grain. This is the result of the machinations of certain men since the French military authorities left Toluca."

[Enclosure No. 8.—Extract from the Pajaro Verde, Mexico, August 1, 1866.]

Eighty-first regiment of the line.

A French soldier assures us the above regiment is allowed to return to France in November; but as all can stay who wish, only the colonel and the band of music will go back.

We are not responsible for the above communication.

No. 41.

Mr. Hunter to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 30, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 27th instant, containing certain documents relative to the state of affairs in some portions of Mexico, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

W. HUNTER.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 42.

Mr. Frederick W. Seward to Señor Romero.

[Unofficial.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, September 20, 1866.

DEAR SIR: I have noticed in a St. Louis newspaper a letter alleged to be from some point on the frontier, stating that the Marquis de Montholon, who is supposed to be a son of the French minister here, had been taken prisoner in the State of Durango, and shot by his captors. If you should have received any information upon this subject, I will thank you for it.

I am, very truly, yours,

F. W. SEWARD,
Acting Secretary.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

[No. 43.]

Señor Romero to Mr. Frederick W. Seward.

[Unofficial.]

MEXICAN LEGATION,
Washington, September 20, 1866.

DEAR SIR: In answer to your unofficial note of this date informing me that "you have noticed in a St. Louis paper a letter alleged to be from some point on the frontier, stating that the Marquis de Montholon, who is supposed to be a son of the French minister here, had been taken prisoner in the State of Durango, and shot by his captors," and asking me to communicate to you any information I might have received upon the subject, I have to say that I have received, as yet, no information on the matter. Should I receive any, I will be very glad to transmit it to you. If it should be agreeable to you I will ask home for reliable information about that intelligence.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. FREDERICK W. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

No 44.

Mr. Frederick W. Seward to Señor Romero.

[Unofficial.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, September 21, 1866.

DEAR SIR: I have received your unofficial note of yesterday, and thank you for your offer to write home for correct information upon the subject to which it relates. That information would be very acceptable to this department.

I am, dear sir, very truly yours,

F. W. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 45.

Señor Romero to Mr. Frederick W. Seward.

[Unofficial.]

MEXICAN LEGATION,
Washington, September 21, 1866.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your unofficial note of this date, in which you request me to ask home for correct information on the subject of your unofficial note of yesterday. It will afford me great pleasure to do so by to-morrow's mail.

I am, dear sir, very truly, your obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. FREDERICK W. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 46.

Señor Romero to Mr. Frederick W. Seward.

[Translation.]

LEGATION OF MEXICO IN THE UNITED STATES, OF AMERICA,
Washington, September 23, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to communicate to you that in a letter dated Vera Cruz, the 12th instant, addressed to me by a gentleman upon whom I can rely, it is stated that the steamer Panama, of the San Nazaire line, arrived at that port on the 10th instant, having on board one hundred and thirty recruits for the French army invading Mexico.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

FREDERICK W. SEWARD, Esq., *&c., &c., &c.*

(Acknowledged October 2, 1866.)

Señor Romero to Mr. Frederick W. Seward.

WASHINGTON, *September* 23, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: Having noticed that the New York papers published accounts, not always correct, of the incidents regarding Mexico, which took place during the last trip of the President of the United States to Chicago, (having myself had the honor of being one of the party,) I enclose to you, with a view that it will be filed in the archives of the State Department, a short, and in my opinion, correct statement of those incidents, which was published in Spanish in the Voz de America, of New York, of the 20th instant.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. FREDERICK W. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.—Translation.]

FALLS OF NIAGARA, *September* 2, 1866.

The cause of Mexican nationality is at this time the object of demonstrations highly significative on the part of the people and government of the United States, which we propose to relate for the information of the readers of La Voz de America in that portion which has until the present time come to our knowledge.

It is known that among the personages who accompany President Johnson on his journey from Washington to Chicago to attend at the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of a monument about to be erected to the memory of Senator Douglas is Mr. Romero, minister from Mexico. Probably in inviting him the President had in view to manifest to the people of the United States that he holds as the programme of his policy the reconstruction of the Union in the one hand and the Monroe doctrine in the other.

At the great banquet which various persons of the city of New York gave to President Johnson on the 29th of August last, in honor of his passage through the city, the committee charged with the arrangements for the dinner, in proof of deference to the great sympathy which the people of this country entertain for the cause of Mexico, invited Mr. Romero, giving him a distinguished place on the platform which was prepared for the President and his cabinet. In order

to give greater significance to this demonstration Baron de Stoeckl, minister of Russia, who was accidentally in New York, was also invited.

We will pass over all the details of the banquet in order to reach what concerns Mexico and the Monroe doctrine.

The mayor of New York, Mr. Hoffman, who, as representing the city, presided at the dinner, toasted, first, the President of the United States, then his cabinet, after that the army and navy, represented by General Grant and Admiral Farragut, who were present, and lastly proposed the toast which follows:

"Gentlemen, there are this evening among us, honoring us with their presence, the representatives of friendly powers, which entertain sincere sympathy with the United States. I therefore propose to you that we toast the friendly nations which truly sympathize with the American Union and heartily desire its peace and prosperity."

This toast was received with great and enthusiastic acclamations. Mr. Romero left it to Baron de Stoeckl to reply to it, as well because he was an elder member of the diplomatic body as because he represented the principal of the two nations alluded to. The minister of Russia did so in befitting and opportune manner; but the auditory was not satisfied with that, and by acclamation called on Mr. Romero to speak. He, being invited by the President and other distinguished persons who were about him, and being also desirous to satisfy the wishes of the meeting, rose from his chair and spoke thus:

"GENTLEMEN: At such an advanced hour of the night (twelve o'clock) I shall not attempt to make a formal speech; besides I suffer from the slight inconvenience of not knowing your language so well as I would. It will seem strange to you, gentlemen, that an American should not speak English; but it is a fact, and I call myself an American because I do not admit your right to monopolize a name which belongs to all who are born on this continent, although they may be citizens of nations to the southward of the United States. Your distinguished mayor has proposed, and you have accepted with very flattering demonstrations, a toast to the nations friendly to the United States, who heartily desire the peace and prosperity of the American Union, and in so doing it seems it was the wish to allude especially to Russia and to Mexico. In so far as the first nation is concerned her distinguished representative has responded in terms which I doubt not have left you well pleased. As for Mexico, I do not think it necessary to assure you that your mayor has not mistaken in supposing her to be a nation friendly to the United States, which truly sympathizes with the American Union, and heartily desires its peace and prosperity. We, gentlemen, who have set before us your example as the model for attaining the aggrandizement of our country, and intend to follow it as far as possible, can do no less than desire the peace and prosperity of your country. We believe that the improvement and welfare of the human race depend, in a great degree, on the consolidation and progress of the form of government established here by your fathers. It appears to us, besides, that, in a certain manner, more or less direct, our peace and tranquility and our future progress depend upon the good result of the great experiment which you are testing. We have reason, therefore, to desire with earnestness the good result of your noble undertaking. Perhaps it may seem strange, but it is no less a fact, that the important victories gained in the territory of the United States by the distinguished General Grant and his compeer, Admiral Farragut, to whom allusions have this evening been made equally flattering and well deserved, victories whose immediate result was the triumph of the Union over its domestic enemies, have contributed also to disconcert its foreign adversaries by improving, in a great degree, the condition of Mexico, which an ambitious despot had endeavored to convert into a basis for his future movements against the United States.

"We desire, therefore, most zealously that the government of the United

States may continue to pursue with steadfast steps the work it has commenced under such good auspices; that it may soon be free of foreign enemies, as it already is of domestic foes; and that, by strengthening its institutions and progressing under their shelter, as has been done thus far, we may be enabled to follow out its wonderful example."

This address, interrupted by frequent applause, closed amid enthusiastic cheers and demonstrations of approbation. We will also pass over the demonstrations of secondary character, which were made in favor of Mexico at various places on the route, to arrive at those which took place on the 31st at Auburn, the residence of Mr. Seward, and the place where he has made all the revelations of his policy.

When the President and those who accompanied him arrived at Seward park, where the mayor of Auburn gave a formal reception to him, in presence of the people of the city, Mr. Seward, according to the English custom, presented to the people the most notable persons in the company, and on coming to Mr. Romero said as follows:

"This, gentlemen, is Mr. Romero, minister of the United States of Mexico, in whose behalf, and against the destruction of whose country, the President of the United States has given notice that intervention from abroad must cease on the first of November next."

This announcement was received with great enthusiasm.

From Seward park the company adjourned to the shores of Owasco lake, where a well-served dinner awaited them.

During dinner General Grant rose, and, in reply to a toast from Mr. Seward to the army and navy of the United States, proposed another to the health of Mr. Romero, minister of Mexico, and the successful issue of the noble cause he represents. To which Mr. Romero replied in the following manner:

"GENTLEMEN: At all times it is embarrassing for me to speak in public, and in a foreign language, but it is much more so when I have to address an auditory so distinguished as the present, but the desire to express my fervent thanks for the very cordial manner in which I have been received in this city, and for the various and flattering allusions which have been made to my country and her sacred cause, decides me to comply with the duty of manifesting to you my gratitude for your repeated kindnesses. My distinguished friend, the honorable Secretary of State, seated on my right, thought proper to disclose at the dinner given to the President at the city of New York, some cabinet secrets, and with this conduct I am encouraged and authorized to disclose some diplomatic secrets. The Secretary of State revealed to us four secrets as I remember, and I, timidly following his example, will reveal only one. It is about four weeks ago that the Secretary of State officially informed me at the Department of State that the President of the United States would go to Chicago for the purpose of honoring the memory of a distinguished North American statesman, and added, by direction of the President, that he would be gratified if I would accompany him. At once, and with pleasure, I accepted the invitation, as I am always pleased to avail myself of the opportunities presented to me to manifest my great esteem and respect for the people of this great nation by rendering honor to its official representative, the President of the United States.

"In this way I have come from Washington in such good company, and in truth I have been more than satisfied with the excursion, which has given me the means better to appreciate this wonderful country, its people, and its institutions.

"Before concluding, I beg I may be allowed to propose another toast, which, although it has been already given, will now have the novelty of coming from one who is not a citizen of the United States, but the representative of a friendly and sister nation of the United States, identified with them, and desirous, as the most so, for its peace and prosperity. This toast is for the prosperity of the United States, the health and welfare of the President and his cabinet, of Gen-

eral Grant, commander of the army, and of Admiral Farragut, commanding the navy, government, army, and navy, that have contributed to improve the condition of Mexico, and which will, in a great degree, contribute to that result, so desirable to the Mexican people."

This reply, as well as the other allusions to Mexico, were received with great enthusiasm.

On another occasion we shall relate more of what occurred respecting Mexico, up to the end of the journey.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, *September* 7, 1866.

Continuing the relation of what occurred respecting Mexico in President Johnson's journey from Niagara to this city, I will say that on the morning of the 3d instant the company left Niagara for Buffalo, a city of above one hundred thousand inhabitants, in the State of New York, where a large crowd was waiting for Mr. Johnson, who was received by ex-President Fillmore and introduced to the people. Mr. Seward was next presented, and he then introduced Mr. Romero as the minister of the Mexican republic. After the applause with which he was received had subsided, the Secretary of State proposed three cheers for the republic of Mexico, and they were given with a will by the assembled multitude. Some one said in an audible voice that if Mexico wanted soldiers the United States would furnish them in plenty, and the remark was applauded.

Mr. Romero was presented to the people who assembled to welcome the President at Dunkirk and other places along the route, Mr. Seward or some of the local authorities officiating, and the enthusiasm everywhere shown for the Mexican cause was only surpassed by that shown everywhere for General Grant.

At one of the stopping-places where the President made a speech, to save time, the presentations were made in pairs: Mr. Seward and General Grant; Mr. Welles, Secretary of the Navy, and Admiral Farragut; Mr. Romero and Mr. Randall, Postmaster General.

On the night of the 3d the company reached Cleveland, a populous city of Ohio, on the shore of Lake Erie. Here, also, Mr. Romero was presented to the crowd assembled in front of the hotel, and the name of his country was received with the greatest enthusiasm.

On the morning of the 4th the President left Cleveland, and arrived in Detroit that night, stopping on the way at Fremont, Ashtabula, Toledo, and others, all thriving cities in the State of Ohio. The train stopped for dinner at Toledo. The customary presentations were made at those stations, and Mr. Romero was received in the name of his country with great enthusiasm everywhere. At Toledo, Mr. Porter, who received the President, said in his speech that the citizens of Toledo were anxious to aid in overthrowing the so-called throne of Maximilian. On reaching Monroe, in Michigan, the home of General Custer, who came with the President from New York, and has often expressed himself publicly in favor of the Monroe doctrine and the cause of Mexico, Mr. Romero was presented by him to the people, who gave three cheers for the republic of Mexico with great spontaneity and unanimity.

The President and Mr. Seward spoke in Detroit. During the speech of the latter he was asked by one present if he would sustain the Monroe doctrine. Mr. Seward said, "Yes, sir; I will sustain it as far as a broken jaw will allow me." He very likely alluded to the present differences of opinion, which will be settled by the coming fall elections.

The company left Detroit on the 5th for this city. There were several introductions on the way, at one of which the Mexican minister was received with great applause, and three cheers were given for that republic, while Mr. Johnson's speech was received quite calmly. This was noticed by Mr. Seward, who said in his speech he hoped the people of that place were not more interested in the Mexican republic than they were in their own country.

The company arrived in this city the night before last. The majority of the inhabitants here seemed opposed to the President. He was not received by the local authorities, nor was a dinner offered him, and he had no opportunity to address the people.

The corner-stone of the Douglas monument was laid yesterday. It was for this the President came to Chicago. Mr. Johnson and his party attended the ceremony, but there was no especial demonstration in his favor.

The President determined to visit St. Louis and other cities, which will prolong his journey and increase his distance from Washington. For this reason Mr. Romero concluded not to go to St. Louis, though urgently invited by Mr. Johnson and Mr. Seward, particularly as he was broken down by the fatigues of the previous week. As he had accepted the President's invitation to attend the ceremony in this city, and as he had with great difficulty complied with it, he did not wish to risk the fatigues of another journey, which in all probability he could not stand. But it is certain his presence will not be required to excite demonstrations in favor of his country from the American people, wherever the President goes.

[Enclosure No. 3.—From La Voz de America, No. 27.]

NEW YORK, *September* 20, 1866.

SOLUTION OF THE MEXICAN QUESTION.

We think those who turn their eyes to France for the study of the solution of the Mexican question are mistaken. The solution is determined; it had its origin in Washington, and it shows the existence of the Monroe doctrine.

No matter what an English paper says about Napoleon's delay in recalling troops from Mexico in January that ought to leave in November, according to the Emperor's declarations and promises, no matter if a paper here says Carlotta has attained her wishes in Paris, things will not change till the United States give the deciding vote.

As to particulars of the crumbling of the imperial structure, there is no doubt about the slowness of the monarch who undertakes to regulate the equilibrium of the world. He must take care of his influence or Mr. Seward will attack his flank as well as his front. In fact he has already done so during the presidential visit to Chicago, showing public opinion all along the way, and the political ideas that prevail in the cabinet.

The President and Mr. Seward invited the Mexican representative to accompany them on that visit, and it was evident the courtesy was not only to a distinguished diplomatist, but a manifestation of the position of the United States on the Mexican question, as is seen from the toasts and speeches on the way, and frequent allusions to that representative.

Our readers will see in another part of our paper the relation of an eye-witness of the facts, and we call particular attention to Mr. Seward's words at Auburn, where he said, "*The President of the United States has given notice that intervention from abroad must cease on the 1st of November next;*" and to the fact that the very cautious and judicious General Grant toasted, "*For the success of the noble cause of Mexico.*"

We repeat that Napoleon has no longer the control of this Mexican question.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 2, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 23d of last month, containing an account, in Spanish, of the incidents respecting Mexico, which occurred during the late journey of the President of the United States to Chicago, taken from La Voz de America, of New York, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this occasion to reiterate to you, sir, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 47.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, September 24, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to enclose you No. 26, volume 2, of the official paper of the government of the Mexican republic, dated the 24th of August last, and to call your attention to the correspondence therein between General Viezca, governor and military commander of the State of Coahuila, and General Mejia, minister of war and marine of the republic, in regard to the exchange of the French prisoners captured by the Mexican forces at Santa Isabel.

I also enclose No. 34 of the official bulletin of the headquarters of the eastern line, published at Tlacotalpam, on the 6th instant, containing another correspondence about the capitulation of the city of Tlacotalpam to the national forces, and the exchange of prisoners effected by General Garcia, second in command on that line.

You will see in the first correspondence that, although the Mexican government consents to a mutual exchange of prisoners, it wishes to establish as a general rule, to be strictly observed by the enemy, that all exchanges made hereafter must be in accordance with the laws of war among civilized nations. You will perceive that this just proposal is rejected by General Douay in his letter to General Viezca, from Saltillo, on the 12th of July last. He says he must consult General Bazaine on the subject before he could come to any definite determination. The reason why the invaders refuse to comply in all cases with the laws of humanity and war is, because they wish to continue their arbitrary conduct on this line. Whenever the national forces take prisoners from them of any importance they propose a regular change according to the custom of civilized belligerents; otherwise, they sacrifice Mexican prisoners barbarously by court-martials, that judge them by strange rules, to the disgrace of the whole world, as is well known to the government of the United States.

On the contrary, the Mexican army, notwithstanding their indisputable right to reprisals, after witnessing the murder of thousands of their people, generals and distinguished patriots among them, in the most horrid manner by the invaders, still keep French prisoners for exchange, unless they release them unconditionally, and always treat them with a lenity and consideration, of which many proofs are extant, and this has been acknowledged by the French generals, as you will see in the communication of General Douay to General Viezca, of the 14th of June last, also published in the enclosed paper.

This furnishes another proof of the inconsistency of the French, who, after announcing that they had no regular enemy to contend with in Mexico with which they could treat on war terms, enter into negotiations with the national forces, and try to effect treaties that can only be concluded between belligerents.

The correspondence found in the official bulletin of Tlacotalpam shows that not only the French prisoners, but even those of the misled Mexicans who are captured fighting for intervention, are treated humanely by officers of the army that is defending the independence of the republic.

I have seen proper to expatiate upon these particulars, because I think them important to furnish the United States government an idea of the conduct observed by the invaders of my country.

I willingly embrace the opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[From the official paper of the constitutional government of the American republic, Chihuahua, August 24, 1866.]

[Encloseure No. 1.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

The president of the republic has learned from your communication of the 8th instant that General Douay expressed a desire to enter into arrangements, through Simon Blanco, to exchange the French prisoners captured at Santa Isabel.

The treatment of our men, when taken prisoners, would be a sufficient excuse for us to treat yours in a similar manner. Our humanity and benevolence to your prisoners, exchanging them when requested, is recompensed by the infamous assassination of General Arteaga, Salazar, and many others, on your part, at Morelia and other places.

It seems to me to be the rule of those who fight to consolidate the monarchy, to try to exterminate those who oppose them and foreign intervention; but such barbarous acts have not been initiated by us, not even in reprisals.

In consideration of this, the president has determined not to exchange the French prisoners in his hands, unless the French general will promise to treat our prisoners with the same consideration, without regard to the dress of our soldiers, who are often poorly clad, and not in uniform. The patriotism of our people is so great they fight in any dress, and should have the greater merit for it and not condemned.

Independence and liberty! Paso, May 31, 1866.

MEJIA.

General ANDRES VIEZCA,

Governor and Military Commander of the State of Coahuila de Zaragoza, wherever he is to be found.

[Encloseure No. 2.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF COAHUILA DE ZARAGOZA.

You will perceive by the enclosed letters of a correspondence between this department and General Douay the terms he proposes for an exchange of prisoners taken in the battle of Santa Isabel. You will make them known to the President of the republic, and send me his opinion about the business, or you may send them directly to the general-in-chief of the army corps of the north, who transferred the prisoners to the State of New Leon, because he apprehended an expedition by the enemy in that district.

Independence and liberty! Monclova, June 17, 1866.

A. S. VIEZCA.

EDUARDO MUZQUIZ,

Secretary to the Minister of War, wherever he is to be found.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

MONCLOVA, *June* 9, 1866.

GENERAL: Dr. Simon Blanco, of this city, addressed me a letter on the first of May last, asking if the French prisoners taken at Santa Isabel could be exchanged; he also sent me two hundred dollars, which I sent to the chief of the staff, in your name, to be delivered to Lieutenant Montier. I enclose you a receipt for the $200 sent to Montier.

About the exchange of prisoners, I have to inform you that I have submitted the proposals to the general government, that will decide upon them.

I do not reply to Mr. Blanco, because I have resolved to have no communication with men who have denied their country, and deserted it in the day of its misfortune. So I address you as a worthy enemy, deserving my private esteem and consideration.

A. S. VIEZCA.

General DOUAY, *Saltillo.*

MONCLOVA, *June* 17, 1866.

A true copy:

EDUARDO MUZQUIZ,
Secretary of the State Government.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

EXPEDITIONARY CORPS OF MEXICO, FIRST DIVISION OF INFANTRY,
HEADQUARTERS, No. 1,257,
Saltillo, June 14, 1866.

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant from Monclova. Accept my thanks for forwarding the two hundred dollars intended for Montier and his captive companions. I hope you will not consider me importunate if I ask you to remit two hundred dollars more in exchange on Monclova, to the same destination.

I do not wonder, general, that you have not the authority to effect the exchange of our prisoners, for even I am not allowed that power; but my great desire to free my prisoners induces me to write you this letter, knowing you will try to effect an exchange.

I enclose a list of the names of thirty-one Mexican officers confined in Puebla, and one hundred and four Mexicans, six of them officers, taken from Cortinas, now in Vera Cruz. I think the marshal would consent to exchange these prisoners for the French taken at Santa Isabel on the 1st of March, and at Parral on the 13th of August last, and for some Mexican officers lately captured in Chihuahua by Terrazas. I do not know if Montier and his companions in captivity are allowed to communicate with their friends; if they are not, I beg you to permit them to do so. I see no impropriety in it if the letters are first sent to you unsealed.

You see, general, I do not hesitate to appeal to your feelings of humanity and courtesy in effecting the proposed exchange of prisoners.

Accept my thanks in advance, with the assurances of my high consideration.

F. DOUAY,
General of Div., Commanding 1st Infantry Div., Expeditionary Corps.

General VIEZCA, *Monclova.*

MONCLOVA, *June* 17, 1866.

A complete copy:

EDUARDO MUZQUIZ,
Secretary of the State Government.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

List of Mexican prisoners taken at Oaxaca by the French, and now confined in Puebla.

Lieutenant Colonels: Mariano Jiminez, José Alvarez, Remedios Perez, Vicente Lozano, Apolonio Duval, José Maria Omaña, Ignacio Castañeda.

Battalion and squadron commanders: Jesus Sosa, José Maria Ramirez, Maximo Velasco, Joaquin Vallesteros, Julian Jaramillio, José M. Palacios, Ambrosio Alonso.

Captains: Luis Cataneo, Jesus Recaido, José Vera, Emilio Legaspe, Carlos Berruecos.

Lieutenants: Francisco Figueroa, Francisco Bueno, José Olivera, Emilio Delicado, Miguel Gonzales, Ramon Contreras, Jesus Herrera.

Under Lieutenants: Manuel Sabuiró, Manuel Pineda, Juan Alvarez, Amado Cataneo.

Besides the above there are six officers captured by Mejia recently in the vicinity of Matamoras, and one hundred and four soldiers, now prisoners of war in Vera Cruz, by order of the government. All these will be exchanged for seventy-eight men, one officer taken at Santa Isabel, and fourteen at Parral in August last, with a few Mexican officers taken in Chihuahua by Luis Terrazas.

MONCLOVA, *June* 17, 1866.

A true copy:

EDUARDO MUZQUIZ, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 6.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

I answered your communication in reference to the exchange of prisoners captured at Santa Isabel, dated the 8th of May, on the 31st of that month, enclosing the copy of a letter from Simon Blanco, and one from the commander of the first infantry division of the expeditionary army; and in my answer I gave you the terms of exchange. Your note of the 17th of June last reached me today. It is in relation to the same subject and contains copies of your letter to General Douay, and his answer, containing formal proposals for exchange of prisoners. In view of what has been said, the President of the republic intrusts the exchange of the French prisoners of the expeditionary corps, taken at Santa Isabel, to your care, giving for them the chiefs, officers, and soldiers mentioned by General Douay in his communication of the 14th of June last.

This communication is copied for the information of the general-in-chief of the army corps of the north.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, July 6, 1866.

MEJIA.

The GOVERNOR AND MILITARY COMMANDER
Of the State of Coahuila, wherever he may be.

[Enclosure No. 7.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC, GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF COAHUILA DE ZARAGOZA.

Your note of the 6th instant informs me that the President has authorized me to exchange the French prisoners of Parral and Santa Isabel for the chiefs, officers, and soldiers mentioned by General Douay in his letter of the 14th of June last.

On the 8th instant I addressed a note, No. 1, to him, of which I enclose a certified copy, containing terms of exchange, sent me on the 31st May from the department. I also enclose General Douay's answer to me, marked No. 2; by it you will see that nothing can be done till he hears from General Bazaine.

All of which I have the honor to communicate for the information of the President of the republic.

Independence and liberty! Parras, July 24, 1866.

A. S. VIEZCA.
M. R. CONTRERAS,
Chief Officer in the Secretary's Absence.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE, *Chihuahua.*

[Enclosure No. 8.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC, GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF COAHUILA DE ZARAGOZA.

PARRAS, *July* 8, 1866.

GENERAL: I have the honor to enclose you a certified copy of the resolution which the supreme government of the republic that I serve has been pleased to adopt in regard to the negotiations you took the trouble to initiate for the exchange of the prisoners of Parral and Santa Isabel.

I hope you will find the conditions announced in the resolution as just, reasonable, and founded on the principles of the laws of war, particularly as you refer in your last note to humanity towards the conquered, in which sentiment I am pleased to say we both agree. I should be sorry to hear of the perpetration of acts by the enemy that might force the republican troops to the extreme of reprisals, so contrary to the good principles of civilization and the rights of humanity.

I remain, general, your attentive servant,

A. S. VIEZCA.

General DOUAY, *Saltillo.*

[Encloseure No. 9.

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE, PARRAS, JULY 24, 1866.

EXPEDITIONARY CORPS OF MEXICO, FIRST DIVISION OF INFANTRY HEADQUARTERS, NO. 1,476.—EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

SALTILLO, *July* 12, 1866.

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th of July, containing the copy of an official document relative to the proposed exchange of French prisoners taken at Santa Isabel and Parral. The great desire I had to carry out this humane negotiation of advantage to the whole world makes me lament that the said letter on exchange of prisoners contains conditions which renders it impossible for me to accept, or even discuss. All I can do is to refer it to the marshal commander-in-chief.

I will not close this letter without thanking you for the interest you have taken in this matter, and begging you to accept the assurances of my high consideration.

DOUAY,
General Commanding the First Division of Infantry of the Mexican Expeditionary Corps.
M. R. CONTRERAS,
Chief officer in the Secretary's absence.

General A. Viezca, *Parral.*

[Enclosure No. 10.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

The President of the republic is informed by your despatch of the 24th July last, enclosing Nos. 1 and 2 of the last correspondence between you and General Douay, in regard to the exchange of the prisoners that were taken from the invading army in the action at Santa Isabel, that the business is still pending, as General Douay is awaiting the decision of General Bazaine.

You were directly authorized to attend to this business, because the commander-in-chief of the army of the north, who was informed of it, was so far off. The principles upon which the authorization of the exchange was based are those observed by civilized nations, and which the government of the republic has tried to follow in all its acts, in contrast to abuses committed by the enemy.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, August 21, 1866.

MEJIA,

General A. S. Viezca,
Governor and Military Commander of the State of Coahuila de Zaragoza, at Saltillo.

[Enclosure No. 11.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC.

Colonel Camacho, commanding the imperialist troops in front, has sent me at 8 o'clock this morning the following communication:

"Mexican Empire, Tlacotalpam,
"*August* 18, 1866.

"On surrendering this city to you, according to my agreement with the general second in command of the eastern line, I have also the honor to turn over to you privates Donaciano Cruz, Lucas Villanca, Casimiro Rodriguez, and Eufrurio Canada, made prisoners to the command of said general on the 10th instant, and Juan Manuel, captured on the 25th May last. I request you to send me, in exchange, to Alvarado an equal number of my soldiers made prisoners in the fight of the 10th of this month. Relying on your generosity and honorable antecedents, I leave in your power privates M. Garcia, J. Valderama, F. Espinosa, A. Perez, F. Flores, N. Arellano, B. Hernandez, and L. Barrera, of my command, who are very sick and cannot be removed. I hope you will let me know when they are able to join me, that I may send for them.

"Having known you, colonel, a long time since, it is gratifying to me to deal with you on this occasion, and improve it to tender you my most distinguished consideration and esteem.

"MARIANO CAMACHO, *Colonel.*"

I have answered as follows.

"MEXICAN REPUBLIC:

"I am in receipt of your polite communication of to-day, relative to the surrender of this place according to the agreements concluded between you and the general second in command of the eastern line; I thank you for the good treatment received by our soldiers made prisoners in the fight of the 10th instant. I will send you to Alvarado an equal number of prisoners of your command, in compliance with your wishes.

"I duly appreciate your confidence in leaving under my care the sick of your command; they shall be treated as brothers, and may God crown my efforts to restore them to health.

"I also am gratified to deal with you on this occasion, and seize it to tender you my distinguished consideration.

"LUIS MIERZ TERAN, *Colonel.*"

It is 37 minutes after 8 a. m., and I receive a message from Colonel Camacho to the effect that the place is evacuated by his troops; I proceed to occupy it and issue there this communication.

Independence and liberty! Tlacotalpam, August 18, 1866.

LUIS MIERZ TERAN.

The Citizen GENERAL
Second in command of the Eastern Line.

No. 48.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 2, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 24th ultimo, containing a copy of No. 26, volume 2, of the official paper of the government of the Mexican republic, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 49.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, September 30, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you the English translation of a decree, published in the Moniteur Universal, of Paris, on the 13th instant, containing a so-called convention, concluded on the 30th of July last, between the Emperor of the French and his agent in Mexico, Don Fernando Maximiliano José de Hapsburg. The decree contains the following dispositions:

1. The French agent in Mexico agrees to grant to France fifty per cent. of the returns of the Gulf custom-houses of the Mexican republic, and twenty-

five per cent. of those of the Pacific, that being the only disposable portion of the returns.

2. This appropriation is to pay the interest and to extinguish the loans contracted by Don Fernando de Hapsburg, and also to pay the three per cent. interest on the debt he supposes Mexico owes to France, which he estimates at two hundred and fifty millions of francs, more or less.

3. The duties now collected in the Mexican custom-houses shall not be changed so as to lessen the returns.

4. The duties shall be collected by French agents in Vera Cruz and Tampico, "and they shall be under the protection of the French flag." In all the other ports the respective custom-house accounts shall be indorsed by the French agents.

5. The French Emperor shall fix the term of office of the agents in Vera Cruz and Tampico, and shall take the necessary measures for their protection.

6. This new arrangement takes the place of the so-called convention of Miramar, of the 10th of April, 1864, *only in reference to financial concerns.*

If this arrangement would go no further from the Emperor Napoleon and his agents in Mexico I would have nothing to say about it, as I hold he has a right to dictate as he pleases to his subordinates; but as certain obligations are pretended to be imposed on the Mexican nation by one who has no right to do it, I deem it my duty to make, respectfully, some remarks in relation to the arrangements for the reconsideration of the government of the United States.

In the first place, I beg you to permit me to say, if any one really believes that Don Ferdinand Maximilian of Hapsburg is anything more than a French agent in Mexico, or that the success of French intervention will do anything more than make Mexico a dependency of France, he will be undeceived by reading the so-called convention; for, by it, some of the principal rights of Mexican sovereignty, as the power of changing the tariff of imports and exports and the collecting of them by their own agents, are intrusted to France.

It is generally understood that the French government has for some time desired to make the United States believe that Mexican intervention was an error, of which it has repented, and which it means to correct as soon as possible, but, in such way as to keep up appearances and save itself from the contempt of its own subjects and of the whole world. With this idea it was to be hoped that the measures adopted would really bring about the result desired, so that the French government would be free from the complications and difficulties caused in Mexico by itself. But, so far from this being the case, it seems the so-called convention only increases the impediments for leaving Mexico, and gives rise to new and immediate perplexities. If the French Emperor has the right to make what arrangements he pleases with his agents, he certainly cannot think they will be binding on the nation whose name he invokes. The conventions that the Emperor makes with his agent, Don Fernando Maximilian, cannot bind Mexico any more than the orders transmitted to General Bazaine by the French minister of war. It is now time for the Emperor Napoleon to confess frankly that he has been routed in his war with Mexico, and should accept the consequences of his defeat. Every effort to conceal this will only increase the embarrassment of his position, and make his situation more ridiculous.

I know very well the friends of the Emperor Napoleon explain this conduct by his desire to save appearances in pretending to protect French credit, but without the intention of enforcing the convention. In my opinion this explanation is very far from being satisfactory. If it is now tried to prove that all is well for the French government in Mexico, I do not think the way to do it is to make agreements that everybody knows beforehand cannot be complied with, and if they are not fulfilled, as they concern "special agents, to be protected by the French flag," can only be another cause of discredit to the government of the Emperor Napoleon.

This explains why the convention is blamed by all those who wish to see France freed from the difficulties which its government has brought upon it in Mexico, as the accompanying extracts from various French papers will show.

In my opinion, the real object of the convention is to leave the seeds for other difficulties and complications, so as to have some excuse to remain in Mexico, in case the Emperor Napoleon sees fit to prolong his intervention and the occupation of the country beyond the time he promised the United States to withdraw from Mexico. As for the rest, if the convention has been made in good faith, what must we think of the sincerity of the Emperor of the French, when we see him deprive his agent of the only resources that enable him to live in the city of Mexico while the French army holds some portions of the Mexican republic?

As the convention mentions the loans negotiated by the French government for its agent, Don Fernando Maximilian, to oppress Mexico, I enclose some articles in regard to these loans taken from English papers that cannot be considered friendly to the Mexican republic, nor even impartial, giving some idea of the fraud and deception with which they have been contracted, and of the distribution that has been made of them.

As to the two hundred and fifty millions of francs, the cost of the war that France is now making upon Mexico, as it is notoriously unjust, with no other aim than to conquer the country, it cannot be imagined how the Emperor Napoleon can expect that Mexico will pay it. If he had been successful in his expedition, he would have had a rich colony; but as he has failed, he ought in justice to indemnify Mexico for the injury he has done her, instead of asking compensation for the expenses of a cruel and unjust war.

I am pleased to have this occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.—From Le Moniteur Universel, (official paper of the French empire,) Paris, Thursday, September 13, 1866. No. 256, page 1.]

OFFICIAL:

Napoleon, by the grace of God and *the national will*, &c. Upon the report of our minister secretary of state for foreign affairs, we have decreed and do decree as follows:

ARTICLE 1. A convention relating to the assignment to the French government of the customs receipts of Mexico having been signed at Mexico on the 30th of July, 1866, the said convention, whose tenor runs as under, having our sanction, will receive full and entire execution from the date of November, 1866.

CONVENTION.

His Majesty the Emperor of the French and his majesty the emperor of Mexico, animated by a desire to settle to *their mutual satisfaction* the financial questions pending between their governments, have resolved to conclude a convention with that object, and appoint for their plenipotentiaries—

His Majesty the Emperor of the French, M. Alphonse Dano, his envoy extraordinary and plenipotentiary at Mexico, &c.

His majesty the emperor of Mexico, M. Louis de Arroye, under-secretary of state, &c., who have agreed upon the following articles:

ARTICLE 1. The Mexican government grants to the French government an

assignment of one-half of the receipts of all the maritime customs of the empire arising from the undermentioned duties:

Principal and special import and export duties upon all objects.

Additional duties of *internacion* and *contra-registre*.

The duty of *mejoras materiales* as soon as the said duty shall be freed from the assignment actually in force in favor of the Vera Cruz and Mexico Railway Company—an assignment which cannot be extended.

As the export duties of the custom-house on the Pacific coast are already pledged to the extent of three-fourths, the assignment now made in favor of the French government shall be limited to the twenty-five per cent. which remains unchanged.

ART. 2. The produce of the assignment stipulated in the foregoing article shall be applied: First, to the payment of the interest to the sinking fund, and of all the obligations arising out of the two loans contracted in 1864 and 1865 by the Mexican government. Second, to the payment of interest at the rate of three per cent. upon the sum of 216,000,000 francs, of which the Mexican government has acknowledged itself indebted by virtue of the convention of Miramar, and of all the sums subsequently advanced in any shape from the French treasury. The amount of this liability, (*créance*,) estimated now at the approximate sum of 250,000,000 francs, shall be hereafter fixed in definitive manner. In the event of the amounts received being insufficient for the full payment of the charges above mentioned, the rights of the holders of bonds of the two loans and of the French government shall remain completely reserved.

ART. 3. The amount arising from the assignment of one-half of the produce of the Mexican customs shall increase proportionally with the augmentation of the receipts, and in case the amount should exceed the sum necessary to meet the charges specified in article one, the excess shall be applied in reduction of the capital sum due to the French government.

ART. 4. The quota of duties and the mode of levying them, at present in force, shall not undergo any modification which might have the effect of diminishing the product of the proportion assigned.

ART. 5. The collection of the duties assigned, as mentioned in article one, shall be performed at Vera Cruz and at Tampico *by special agents, placed under the protection of the French flag*. All the duties received at these two custom-houses on account of the Mexican treasury shall be appropriated to the discharge of the French concession, with the sole reserve of any portion that may be the subject of any assignment now recognized, and of the payment of the salaries of the officers of those custom-houses. The amount of this latter expense, which shall include the remuneration allowed to the French agents, must not exceed five per cent. of the produce of the before-mentioned duties. A quarterly settlement of accounts shall set forth the amounts thus received by the French government and the product of the assigned duties in all the custom-houses of the empire. This settlement of accounts shall fix the sum to be immediately paid by the Mexican government to make up the amount of the revenue conceded in case there should be a deficiency, or the sum to be handed over to it should the sum received be in excess. In all the other ports than Vera Cruz and Tampico the French consular agents shall revise the accounts of the customs establishments in the ports where they are resident.

ART. 6. It shall be left *to the discretion of the Emperor Napoleon III to fix the time* during which the agents charged with levying these repayments shall be maintained at Tampico and Vera Cruz, as well as to define the measures which may be proper to insure their protection.

ART. 7. The arrangements above specified shall be submitted for approbation to the Emperor of the French, and shall become in force at a time fixed by his Majesty.

The convention signed at Miramar on April 10, 1864, shall from that time be abrogated on all points which relate to financial questions.

In faith of which the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the present convention, to which they have affixed their seals.

Made in duplicate at Mexico, the 30th of July, 1866.

ALPH. DANO.
LOUIS DE ARROYO.

ART. 11. Our minister secretary of state for the home department, provisionally charged with the department of foreign affairs, is charged with the execution of the present decree.

NAPOLEON.

ST. CLOUD, *September* 12, 1866.

Seen and sealed with the seal of the state:

The Seal Keeper and Minister of Justice and Public Worship,
J. BAROCHE.

By the Emperor:

The Minister of the Interior in charge ad interim of the Department of Foreign Affairs,
LA VALETTE.

[Enclosure No. 3.—From La Liberté, Paris, September 14, 1866.]

THE LIQUIDATION.

A man must entertain very robust illusions not to be convinced that the monarchical experiment attempted by France in Mexico is rapidly approaching its *denouement;* and it may be truly said that the policy of intervention has never before exhibited so plainly the perils which it has created and the troubles which follow in its track. We went to Mexico to recover an insignificant debt; to-day Mexico owes us 250,000,000 francs, and we end where we should have begun, by taking possession of the customs.

We went to Mexico to protect the lives of our countrymen, as the names of eight Frenchmen who were assassinated were given. Now we are obliged to record—to say nothing of our soldiers killed—the murder of French residents at Saltillo, at Tampico, and on the road from Vera Cruz. We went to Mexico to support the claims of some French subjects; now these claimants complain of the enormous reductions which have been made in their demands, and of the non-payment of recognized indebtedness. Beside that, instead of a few claimants, we have before us a legion of holders of the two Mexican loans, who demand that we should reimburse them. We went to Mexico to found a stable government, and now that government, with assistance in money and men which none of its predecessors had is unable to live without us. Deprived of its customs revenues, its only real resource, soon to be deprived of our material aid, the empire has no longer either money or men, and it has only to choose between a prompt abdication and the successive conquest of all its provinces by the dissidents, who, we have been so often told, were entirely beaten and exhausted. In such a situation, on the eve of the abdication of Maximilian, the adversaries of the Mexican expedition would be lacking in patriotism if they indulged in sterile and useless recriminations. At the same time the journals which have resting upon their conscience the aid imprudently given to an unfortunate enterprise, will fail in their duty if they do not unite with us in seeking the means of finishing as soon as possible with an affair which has cheated their hopes and

gone contrary to all their calculations. Liquidation—that is what is desired, and it should be firmly desired without, however, indulging in chimeras. To expect that Mexico, which was unable to pay an insignificant sum due to France before the intervention, can now pay us two hundred and fifty millions, is to follow a chimera. Let us get rid of the idea. To expect that Maximilian can reign in Mexico without his customs revenues—that is to say, without a budget—is still to follow a chimera. Let us abandon it. To expect that any government succeeding to the empire will ratify the convention of the 26th of July, and that it can live without a budget, is to pursue a chimera. Let us not talk of it. We will put but one question: How are we to guarantee the existence of our countrymen against reprisals of the Juarists, placed outside the law by official proclamation, and the partisans of whom have been summarily shot? It would certainly be very much to be regretted that the holders of the Mexican loans should lose in whole or in part their investment in the Mexican lottery; but after all, these are only the chances of play. That those who have furnished it or its equivalent should lose the two hundred and fifty millions which Mexico owes us would be very sad; but after all, these were the expenses of an expedition which was approved by the deputies whom the contributors elected. What would be terrible would be the massacre of our countrymen who did not ask for intervention, and who, our army evacuating Mexico, would be left as hostages in the hands of the exasperated Juarists. Now, the only means of saving them, if they are menaced, as the French journals in Mexico unanimously say they are, is to place them under the guarantee of a treaty concluded between France and a national government. Does the government of Maximilian, who cannot even defend himself, present sufficient guarantees? Evidently not; and, besides, it has just taken away from itself the means of existence. There is no necessity of our occupying ourselves further with it.

There remain three republican chiefs—Santa Anna, Ortega, and Juarez. Can we treat with Santa Anna, the ancient head of the conservative party?

Overthrown by the liberal party, absent from Mexico for many years, Santa Anna no longer has any reputation. If his party, who demanded intervention, had possessed the slightest influence, Maximilian would have governed with men of that stamp, and need not have been obliged to seek for his ministers among the liberal party. The presidency of Santa Anna would be then an anti-national and ephemeral presidency, which would furnish us with no real guarantees.

Can we treat with Ortega? Why? What claim has General Ortega to the confidence of the Mexicans? What guarantee of stability would his government present? It would be that of Juarez without his popularity.

There remains, then, only Juarez. Say and think what we please about Juarez, it is none the less true, that in Mexico he is popular. The proof of this is that, notwithstanding our efforts, in spite of our excellent soldiers, he has held the field for four years. After the departure of Maximilian, his will be the sole constituted power. Why, then, can we not treat with him? Attaining power upon the ruins of the conservative party, Juarez has given proof of a firmness, a perseverance, which we must deplore, as it has been very unfortunate for the designs of France, but which, from his point of view, is very honorable. In a country where probity is an uncommon virtue, (we have never heard his probity attacked,) and after having decided upon the sale of the clerical property, he was the only one who did not profit by the operation to which this sale gave opportunity. Again, at the time when, during the siege of Puebla, the population of Mexico loudly demanded, at one time, the massacre, at another, the expulsion of the French residents, it was he, and he alone, who saved our countrymen from death and ruin. France combatted him with ardor as long as she believed in the duration of the empire. This was a duty, as it was necessary that it should defend the government which it had established. But the

day when we recognize that the establishment of a monarchy in Mexico will demand too heavy sacrifices—the day when Maximilian disengages us by his abdication—what serious reason have we for not treating with the government of Juarez? That day our only duty will be to come to an understanding with the government which presents the most guarantees of continuation. Now what government offers more than that which has lasted four years, in spite of the intervention?

Let us then cast aside all secondary considerations, and if the empire is to fall, let us not hesitate to adopt the only reasonable course. This course, once adopted, we may be certain that we will obtain from Juarez all the desirable concessions; and, in any case, we will have assured the lives of our countrymen, whom Juarez alone is probably sufficiently influential to efficaciously protect.

The Patrie ought to be satisfied now with our explanations, and should not accuse them of being obscure. Will it tell us, in its turn, what it proposes to conciliate the necessity of evacuating Mexico, and the duty of protecting our countrymen? Let it speak plainly; but, after assuming the responsibility of the Mexican loan by rash eulogies, let it beware of assuming the much more serious responsibility now of events unanimously predicted by all the Mexican journals.

CLEMENT DUVERNOIS.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

A well-informed journal, the Moniteur, publishes this morning the following note:

"By a decree of the 26th July, his majesty the emperor of Mexico has confided the portfolio of war to General Osmont, major general, chief of staff in the expeditionary corps, and the portfolio of finance to Mr. Friant, military intendant. The military duties of these two chiefs in service, attached to an army in the field, being incompatible with the responsibility of their new functions, they have not been authorized to accept them."

It is scarcely necessary to say that we approve of this resolution of the French government in the most complete manner. What will the Patrie think of it, when it said yesterday, speaking of General Castelnau's mission?—

"We are certain General Castlenau's mission to Mexico relates to a new plan for reorganization, containing many civil and military reforms, to be applied in December next. The appointment of General Osmont as minister of war, and Mr. Friant, military intendant, as minister of finance, is only the starting point for this entirely new situation.

According to the basis adopted for the Mexican army, that army, commanded chiefly by French officers, would not only serve to keep order and quiet in the country, but would be employed in directing the different civil and financial services, the employés being taken from the army. This system, lasting two or three years, would be economical to the treasury, as the salaries would be paid from the army fund, and peace and economy are what the people now need, above all things."

Our readers can judge from this what the informations and predictions of the Patrie are worth.

CLEMENT DUVERNOIS.

[Enclosure No. 4.—From the Opinion Nationale, of September 15.]

THE CONVENTION WITH MEXICO.

The convention with Mexico, published in the Moniteur of yesterday, although signed by M. De La Valette, minister *ad interim*, has been in reality concluded by Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys, since on the 30th of July the latter had not yet resigned. This convention, we regret to say, seems to fall short of the object aimed at by the two governments, and contains elements of danger and complications to which we believe it to be our duty to call public attention.

The treaty concedes to France half the receipts of the custom-houses of the ports located on the Gulf of Mexico, and a fourth in all the ports of the Pacific ocean. If the concession is but a fourth of the receipts in the harbors of the Pacific, it is because the other three-fourths are already mortgaged; so that the Mexican government will not get anything from these ports. It will not get much more in the Gulf of Mexico, because if we are to receive fifty per cent., forty-nine per cent being already conceded as a guarantee to the Spanish-English debt, there will remain one per cent., that is to say, the equivalent of nothing, to the Mexican government. Now the custom-houses having been the principal part of its revenue, the question occurs, what will the aforesaid government have to live upon hereafter? This, of course, is a question which we will not undertake to solve.

There is another circumstance worthy of notice. The convention allows us fifty per cent. of the produce of the custom-house in the Gulf of Mexico. Now, out of the three principal ports located on that gulf, Matamoras, Tampico, and VeraCruz, two, Matamoras and Tampico, do not any longer belong to Maximilian. Tampico, especially, fell into the hands of the Juarists on the 1st of August, the day following the signature of the convention. Must we conquer it again?

If, as everything goes to show, Maximilian is compelled to abdicate, what will be the value of the present convention to the succeeding government?

But the point undoubtedly the most defective and dangerous of the treaty of the 30th of July is the disposition contained in article 5, stating that

"The collection of the duties mentioned in article 1 will be made at Vera Cruz and Tampico by special agents placed under the protection of the flag of France."

This arrangement alone would be sufficient to make us condemn the treaty. With this article nothing is ended. Vainly shall we have re-embarked our troops and brought them back to Europe. Our flag remains; that is to say, France is still engaged. Abandoning the soil of Mexico, we leave upon it the germ of our complications and perhaps a new expedition.

If Mexican agents had been intrusted with the collection, we would have run but one risk, the certainty of not being paid. This would certainly have been a misfortune which was, however, susceptible of being appreciated, estimated, and reckoned.

But the position which is made for us by this treaty is far more serious, because it conceals a certain peril, unknown in its form, unlimited in its bearing.

Can, in fact, the position of the custom-house officers we shall leave in Vera Cruz and Tampico after the withdrawal of our troops be easily imagined? Who will protect them? Is it Maximilian? But if he could not keep Tampico, how will he protect the agents we will leave in that city?

And if Maximilian abdicates, will the government which will take its place, and which will find the exchequer empty, leave quietly the French custom-house officers to pocket half the revenue of the custom-house in virtue of an agreement they will have not signed nor acknowledged?

On the other hand, shall we permit our agents, placed under the protection of the French flag, to be insulted? Shall we allow the funds which belong to us in virtue of the convention of the 30th of July to be seized in their hands? But if we have no more troops in Mexico, how shall we protect them? After having recalled our army, shall we be compelled to send another?

All this, it must be seen, is perfectly impracticable; it is the rock of Sisyphus; it is the Danuid's hogshead; it is a vicious circle, in the midst of which we shall perpetually turn, imagining every day to put an end to an undertaking which we will be compelled to renew the next day.

We must have the courage to confront bad situations; the Mexican expedition is a bad business. The greatest want of France is not to economize upon the wrecks of the undertaking; it is to do away with it at once and forever, be the cost 500,000,000, 600,000,000, or 700,000,000; this is, in our eyes, a very small consideration when compared with the immense freedom of action which would follow a radical settlement. Our intervention in Mexico weighs heavily upon our European policy, and has raised clouds between the United States and us. Why? For what object? What do we hope to-day? Nothing, is it not? Well, let us end it once for all; and if we are withdrawing our soldiers, let us not leave in their stead our custom-house officers and, above all, our flag."

[Enclosure No. 5.—From La Patrie; Paris, September, 1860.]

We have reason to believe that the mission of General Castelnau to Mexico is connected with the approaching realization of a thorough plan of reorganization. This plan embraces several administrative and military reforms, which are to be applied from the month of December. The nomination of General Osmont as minister of war, and that of the military intendent, M. Friaut, as minister of finance, were only the point of departure of this new situation. According to the basis adopted for the Mexican army, this army, commanded in great part by French officers, will serve not only to maintain order and tranquillity in the country, but will be employed to direct the different administrative and financial services. The employés necessary to perform these services will be taken from it. This system, which will probably last two or three years, will have the advantage to produce notable economies to the treasury, since Mexico will have scarcely any expenses to bear excepting those of the support of its army, and it will respond to the most pressing needs of its population, who, before all, demand order and economy as the two benefits before which all other considerations ought to disappear. The organization of the new Mexican army, the base of the whole system, at the last date was advancing rapidly. The number of voluntary enrolments was considerable, and had even permitted the dispension of the conscription. When the army shall have been entirely formed it will take possession of the different services, and it is thought that this substitution can be made long before the departure of the last contingents of the French expeditionary corps. When General Castelnau will have regulated as French commissary the different questions in which our adhesion was considered necessary, he will return to Paris, where it is thought he will arrive in the early part of December. We are assured that Marshal Bazaine, who will no longer have a command in accordance with the high dignity with which he is clothed, will quit Mexico about the same time.

[Enclosure No. 7.—Paris (September 13) correspondence of the London Times.]

MISSION OF GENERAL DE CASTELNAU TO MEXICO—DISSATISFACTION WITH MARSHAL BAZAINE.

General de Castelnau, one of the Emperor's aides-de-camp, left Paris on Tuesday night suddenly, and was to sail yesterday by the post boat from St. Nazaire to Vera Cruz. It is said that he carries an autograph letter from the Emperor Napoleon to the emperor Maximilian, and I believe it will prove that he also takes with him the recall of Marshal Bazaine, whose conduct in command of the French army in Mexico has of late not given satisfaction. He is accused of various shortcomings, among others of having caused the fall of Matamoras by neglecting to send the re-enforcements repeatedly applied for by General Mejia. It is not that Mejia, but his brother, who has deserted to the Juarists. The loss of Tampico is another disaster discreditable to the commander-in-chief. The French portion of the garrison, only one hundred and seventy-five men, defended themselves so gallantly as to obtain terms of honorable capitulation, and marched out with arms, baggage, and drums beating. Their defence was favored by the arrival of three French men-of-war from Vera Cruz. Although of late people here have talked of the Mexican empire as nearly at its last gasp, in official circles this does not seem to be the tone, and hopes are cherished that it may yet survive and prosper. It is intended to have recourse to a thorough military organization of the country.

The native Mexican army is to be increased, it is said, to 50,000 men, and as it has been found from experience that nothing can be done with Mexican officers, who for the most part are incapable or undeserving of confidence, the army will be officered by Frenchmen. French officers are generally ready for anything that promises adventure and promotion, and applications to take service will not be wanting. Moreover, the functions of all the departments of the state will be confided to French military men; taxes, custom-house, administration of all kinds will be in their hands, and thus it is hoped to get the better of the corruption and sloth which have hitherto been the bane of the new empire. It remains to be seen how far all this is practicable and productive of good results. Most people will be surprised if either Maximilian or the French troops are in Mexico this time two years. Part of these troops are to be withdrawn next November, but the French government has reserved the right to keep 10,000 men there until November, 1868. Supposing Maximilian to remain on the throne, it is thought probable that a few thousand men will remain up to that time, but the French government would gladly, I suspect, withdraw them sooner did the consolidation of Maximilian's power permit of its being done without danger to his throne.

[Enclosuee No. 8.—From La Liberté, Paris, September 16, 1866.]

BRAGGADOCIO.

The Patrie replies to the very calm article we produced day before yesterday, in a philippic of inexcusable violence. Instead of helping us to contrive some way to put an end to this unfortunate Mexican business, it attacks our patriotism, accuses us of taking the part of assassins and robbers, and desiring the defeat of our armies. Such abuse we despise, and we will merely say the mode of discussion is unworthy of a journalist who has any respect for his profession in the person of his colleagues. Cannot questions of public interest be discussed

with moderation, and is it necessary to calumniate a man to refute his argument? Have we accused the Patrie of bad faith, during the four years it entertained its readers with the most dangerous illusions? Did we accuse it of evil intentions, when it persuaded the credulous to buy Mexican bonds, by publishing news that was contradicted the next day? No; we continued to sustain what we thought was right, and we did not say it was a want of patriotism to insist upon France's paying Maximilian's debts.

Now we will resume the subject under discussion.

The Patrie pretends to believe we want Juarez restored, when it knows it is not so. All we want is, for France to withdraw from Mexico as soon as possible, consistent with the safety of our countrymen, who are threatened with retaliation. That is what we wish and what we ask. For this reason we say, that if Maximilian decides to abdicate for want of funds or soldiers, the best thing we can do is to treat with Juarez. If the Patrie knows a better plan, let it be proposed; if it is good, we will advocate it. If the Patrie knows of any way to keep up the Mexican empire, after our troops quit, when its last financial resources were cut off by the convention of the 26th of July, let us hear of it.

If it knows of none, then it must admit with us that the empire is nearly over, and all that remains for Maximilian to do is to renounce the throne he was forced to take, and retire with dignity from an enterprise he did his best to carry out. If he makes this resolve he will be blameless, and history will relieve him from all responsibility. Does the Patrie want Maximilian to hold on to power, after our troops have left, and without men and without money, see his provinces taken from him, one by one, by the malcontents?

After Maximilian has left, with whom will France treat, if not with Maximilian? Let the Patrie tell us.

What are the objections to our plan? The Liberté affirms (says the Patrie) that Juarez is popular, has kept up the war four years, and is the only constituted power.

If he is the only constituted power, where is this power? Where is the government that gives the best guarantee of durability?

That power fell with Puebla, and when Juarez's constitutional term as President expired.

The Liberté affirms that Juarez has kept the field for four years. Nobody will deny that. Has Juarez been driven out of Mexico once in these four years? Even now half the provinces are in his hands, and the republicans hold the power in all places where our troops are not stationed. Have they not retaken Matamoras and Tampico? Are they not at Medellin, only half an hour from Vera Cruz?

The Liberté says again that Juarez is popular. What audacity! Certainly Juarez must have some influence since he has kept unhappy men without bread and without shoes, fighting for four years against the best army in the world, braving privations, defeat, and death.

We said that Juarez would be the only constituted power to treat with after Maximilian's departure; let those who contradict us, show us some other. It is simply ridiculous for Mr. Dreolle to put the Mexican constitution against Juarez. Have there been any elections in Mexico since Juarez was elected? In every country in the world the holder of power keeps it till another is elected, particularly in revolutionary times.

The Patrie's great argument is, that France cannot treat with Juarez because she has been fighting him for four years. Because France is at war with Juarez is the very reason why she should treat with him. Is it a rule we must not treat with those we fight? If it is, there is no end to wars, and Prussia would still be fighting Austria.

But, says the Patrie, Juarez is an agent for the United States. If the Patrie had read the history of the country, before talking about it, it would know that

the grants of provinces to the Americans were made by the conservative party, by Santa Anna, against the will of the liberals.

After encouraging the Mexican expedition, and urging France and its government to it, by echoing the false reports circulated by Mexicans in Paris, one ought to be more modest and more civil to those who are trying to repair the errors.

When one has upon his conscience so many counsels condemned by experience, he ought not to sit down in his office and forget that there are thousands of French in Mexico who did not ask for intervention, and who now run the risk of being massacred the day after our departure. Under pretext of a point of honor, we ought not to expose the fortunes and perhaps the lives of our unfortunate countrymen by imprudent advice.

What the Patrie calls discussion, is: substituting abuse for argument, accusing the intentions of its opponents instead of answering their questions, endangering the lives of people three thousand leagues off; and all for the pleasure of making a few high sounding sentences. That is not politics; it is braggadocio.

CLEMENT DUVERNOIS.

[Enclosure No, 8.]

AN ALTERNATIVE.

The Presse thus ends an article relative to the convention of the 26th of July:

"A contract has been made with the only regular authority that exists in Mexico. It is binding on the nation itself, irrevocable and finite. We need not doubt its execution, for, if the Mexicans are opposed to it, two French frigates will remind them of it."

We do not know if our honorable colleague is aware of it, but what he says is an open condemnation of the French expedition to Mexico.

If two French war-vessels could compel the Mexicans to fulfil their engagements, why did France make war on them to enforce claims? a war that is not over yet!

If two frigates could not collect a trifling debt, that the single custom-house of Vera Cruz could have paid in a few months, how can they protect French agents in all the ports of Mexico for an indefinite period?

If the two frigates were sufficient, then the expedition was unnecessary; they can do no more good now than they could before; so we must give up the contract, or continue the expedition.

CLEMENT DUVERNOIS.

[Enclosure No. 9.—From La Liberté, Paris, 20th September, 1866.]

THE SITUATION IN MEXICO.

The Patrie believes in the future of Mexico; it has a right to do so, but that is not the question; the question is to know what France ought to do now to protect its citizens in Mexico.

Does the Patrie advise France to continue military intervention beyond the time fixed for its termination? If that is our colleague's opinion, why does he not speak it outright? Why don't he say plainly, France has not spent enough men and money; why does he not propose a new loan and more troops? In his disinterested tenderness for Mexico and its government, why does he not advise France to risk a war with the United States, when its honor and its interests are against it?

If that is what the Patrie wants, why don't it have the courage to say so? But while it laments the decrease of our effective force in Mexico, why don't it blame the convention of the 26th July? Though France was not obliged to undertake the regeneration of Mexico, when it did undertake it, it should have carried it out. It should not hesitate in the efficacy of its plans, nor leave Mexico bankrupt.

On the other hand, does the Patrie want Mexico evacuated at the time fixed, and the convention of the 26th July executed? It must believe one of two things: either that the empire will survive intervention, or that it will not. If it believes the former, let it tell us by what kind of a miracle that phenomenon is to be caused; let it show us the financial resources to support Mexico and pay its debts. We want no fine phrases; we want facts and figures!

If, on the contrary, the Patrie thinks Maximilian will abdicate, why don't it say so, and not deceive its readers? But, what does it propose when Maximilian abdicates? It will not treat with Juarez. We don't know why; but it will not, and that is enough. *Sit pro ratione voluntas.* Then, what does it want? what does it advise? Does it agree with the Epoque to cede Mexico to the United States? does it propose to treat with Santa Anna, the representative of a broken down party? or with Ortega, who is a second Juarez? It proposes nothing!

Again, Mr. Dréolle is certainly in jest when he says France cannot give up the Mexican job; and yet he advises evacuation, and declares the empire shall live, without saying how it shall live; and approves of the July convention that ruins the empire. On one occasion it praised the nomination of General Osmont as war minister, lauding it as a Franco-Mexican organization; and the next day, when the Moniteur announced that General Osmont was not authorized to accept a Mexican portfolio, it rubbed its hands and exclaimed, in an important air, "That's just what we told you yesterday!"

Now, the Patrie takes refuge behind Count Keratry, when we don't know what his singular articles in the Revue des Deux Mondes can have to do with the question in discussion.

What says our author who has lived in Mexico, not in palaces and garrisons, but in the ranks of Colonel Dupin's gallant band, called the *contra-guerrilla?* He tells of the defects in the present government; he shows us the errors, neglects, hesitations, and precipitations that have ruined it. He knows more about it than all those who went to Mexico only to solicit grants, or obtain favors. The writer, who has lived everywhere, leading a rugged life with his heroic companions, mostly in the open air, marching from village to village after Juarists, and finding out what they were good for, after enumerating government mistakes, concludes by telling what might have been done, and what could yet be done. Not a word of discouragement falls from his pen! The empire can live by contracting its limits. Why should it seek to govern where even the vaunted republics did not rule? It can live by giving a place in the sunshine to the noble race of oppressed Indians; by ousting the bandits from their hiding-places, those lawless disciples of Juarez or of Santa Anna; and by suppressing the shameless representatives of an immoral clergy, who encourage anarchy so as to make their fortunes and ruin the country!

But what does all that prove? It shows the Mexican empire would live with plenty of money, a large army, and a firm policy, if it gave up one-third of the provinces left to it by the republic. And who denies that? Perhaps "those who went to Mexico to solicit grants or obtain favors."

But where are those concealed whom the Patrie seems to be acquainted with? Mr. Dréolle does not mention those famous claimants, the cause of the expedition, whose claims have been greatly reduced, and are not yet paid. Will he mention those encouragers of the loan, who pocketed large commissions, and

whom he took under his disinterested protection? Will he mention all those who obtained favors without going to Mexico? Why don't he speak openly?

As to ourselves, we went to Mexico, but not to solicit grants or obtain favors; and we agree with Keratry, except in one particular. We think with him that Mexico is an admirable country, and that an empire might be established there; all that is wanting to this one is, money and independence! It does not lack the good will, nor the intelligence, nor the firmness. Money it never had, and it can do little with the thirty-four millions obtained from the two loans. It needs five hundred millions, and that was the sum we suggested before it was too late.

Independence! How could it be independent with an army over which it had no command? We proposed to give it an army.

Though Keratry's writings show Mexico to be a good country, deserving an empire, they do not prove that the present empire can live unsupported by France, nor do they prove that a succession is open and is to be settled.

One word more. The Patrie is astonished at our acrimony in blaming its mode of debate. Well may it be astonished, for its article to-day confirms us in our estimation of its severity, and we persist in saying editors ought not to accuse each other of dishonesty and want of patriotism when there is no occasion for it.

Reading Dréolle's articles suggested the above moral observations.

CLEMENT DUVERNOIS.

[Enclosure No. 10.]

THE MEXICAN LOAN—OCTOBER COUPONS.

On the 5th of August, 1866, the Moniteur published a Mexican correspondence, ending with these lines:

"The convoy of the specie train of six hundred thousand dollars to pay the the dividends of the foreign debt, left Mexico on the 22d of June, and will be sent to Europe on the English packet which is to start on the 1st of July from Vera Cruz for Southampton."

The specie was then on the way, and the payment of the coupons was sure.

We find the following notice in the Moniteur of this morning:

"*Mexican finance committee in Paris.*

"The president of the Mexican finance committee in Paris informs the holders of Mexican bonds and obligations that as no funds for the arrears and coupons of the 1st October have been sent by the Mexican government, the payment is necessarily postponed. The president of the committee at the same time reminds the holders of Mexican obligations that a capital of thirty-four millions, according to contract, is deposited in the bank of deposits and consignments, at three per cent., to reimburse their expenditures.

"PARIS, *September* 18, 1866."

What does that mean? How is it that the Mexican committee does not mention the measures adopted by the government, as announced by the Patrie, for the consolation of its bond-holders?

CLEMENT DUVERNOIS.

[Enclosure No. 11.—From the Patrie, September 23.]

Why is the cabinet of the Tuilleries morally responsible to the holders of Mexican stock? We will say why: 1. The legislative body heard one of its members, M. Corta, who was charged with an official mission to Mexico, and who, at

the sitting of the 10th of April, 1865, drew the most reassuring picture of the financial situation and the resources of the new empire. 2. M. Rouher, minister of state, while disclaiming in most explicit language—we readily admit it—any special guarantee on the part of the government, declared at the same time that incontestable guarantees were attached to the loan then projected, and that France would not recall her troops from Mexico until she had accomplished her work and assured the complete pacification of the country. 3. Count de Germiny, senator, honorary governor of the Bank of France, was named president of the committee of Mexican finance, sitting at Paris. 4. When the loan was decided on, the minister of finance authorized the comptoir d'escompte to employ the agency of the receivers general for the distribution of the scrip in all the departments of France. Such are the facts, and we could mention others not less significant; for example, the sending to Mexico a counsellor of state, M. Langlais, charged to reorgnize the finances of that country. Such, we repeat, are the facts which preceded, accompanied, and followed the issue of the Mexican loans. Those facts and those measures evidently influenced the public confidence and induced the subscribers to part with their money. Why should we not add that the French treasury has received the greatest portion of the funds arising from the loans, to cover itself for funds which Mexico owed to France on various accounts? Since, from motives which we have not now to analyze, the government has been induced to renounce a policy at first adopted by it, and which was the determinate cause of the success of the loans, the fact none the less remains that the declarations which it made, and the dispositions which it took, remain for the holders of Mexican stock. Those do not come and say to the French government at the moment when Mexico—from causes beyond her control, we are prepard to admit—fails in her engagements: "We are your creditors—we have your guarantee." In effect it is not so. But it must be allowed that the holders of Mexican securities will hardly forget that if the French government is not bound to them by a material guarantee, it is so by its moral acts.

[Enclosure No. 12.—Paris (September 23) correspondence of the London Daily News.]

The latest device invented by the advocates of the Mexican bondholders for redeeming the "moral guarantee" of the French government without charge to the French budget—a task about as practical as the search for the philosopher's stone—is the following: A bill is to be presented to the corps legislatif authorizing the government to advance funds for payment of interest of the debt, (as was done in the case of Greece,) the produce of the Mexican customs, secured by the convention of July, being assigned as security; and the collection of these customs being admitted to be uncertain, the 34,000,000 impounded to accumulate at compound interest for the purpose of paying off the capital of the Mexican debt in fifty years would be "such an ample collateral guarantee as to cover the French treasury against all risk of not being repaid its advances." It is obvious that the scheme is mere thimble-rigging. Whatever payments might be made to the bondholders under it would be taken out of their own money. No contract with the public was ever more positive than that these 34,000,000 should remain a sacred fund, untouched, to secure, in the very worst case, the repayment of the principal of the loan in fifty years. To touch that fund now for the purpose of preventing grumbling about the non-payment of dividends would be confiscation. Besides, the Moniteur insisted only two days ago, by way of consolation for the announced suspension of dividend, that this fund insured the safety of the capital. I cannot think any minister would have the face to present such a monstrous measure as the one suggested to the corps

legislatif, after M. Rouher's explicit declaration, made to stop the mouths of the opposition deputies who objected to the encouragement given by the executive to the Mexican loan, that France would never in any way be either directly or indirectly liable. Remembering this, it is impossible to agree with the Patrie, when it says to-day that though the bondholders have no legal claim on France, they have an "equity." Not so; equity is all the other way, and should be steadily appealed to to protect the tax-payer. Nothing can be more "immoral" than the pretended "moral" guarantee.

[Enclosure No: 13.]

THE MEXICAN LOAN.

The undersigned, José Hidalgo, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of his majesty the emperor of Mexico, and Count Carlos de Germiny, senator, appointed by his majesty the emperor Maximilian, president of the treasury commission of Mexico in Paris, by a decree of the 10th of April 1864:

Having examined the powers conferred the 26th November, 1864, by his majesty the emperor Maximilian, to Messrs. Corta, deputy in the corps legislatif; Barron, proprietor in Mexico; Bourdillon, a lawyer residing in Mexico; de Germiny, a senator, to contract a loan in Europe, their powers being countersigned by Don Joaquin Velazquez de Leon, his majesty's minister of State;

We have decided and do decide as follows:

ARTICLE 1. There shall be inscribed in the great book of the foreign debt of Mexico a first series of 500,000 obligations, of 500 francs each, yielding an annual interest of 30 francs, payable on the 1st of April and 1st of October of each year, making a nominal capital of 250 millions of francs. The emission of these titles shall be at the price of 340 francs for the first interest coupon which falls due the 1st of October, 1865.

The rest shall be issued as follows:

	Francs.
On subscribing 60 francs per obligation	60
From the 5th to the 15th June, 1865	80
From the 5th to the 15th August, 1865	50
From the 5th to the 15th October, 1865	50
From the 5th to the 15th December, 1865	50
From the 5th to the 15th February, 1866	50
Total	340

The coupon of 15 francs which falls due on the 1st of October shall be received in deduction from the entire fourth.

The holders shall have the privilege of discounting all the terms not due, at the rate of six per cent. profit per annum.

Subscribers not paying their instalments when due shall be charged an interest of ten per cent. per annum for delay.

ART. 2. The liquidation shall be effected every six months by lot. The drawing shall be made by the treasury commission of Mexico in Paris, on the 2d of January and 2d July of each year, so that the reimbursements may be made, within three months at most, to those having a right to them.

The first drawing shall take place on the 2d of July, 1865. In each half-yearly drawing, every obligation drawn shall be paid in the sum of 500,000 francs; every two obligations, 100,000 francs; every four obligations, 50,000 francs; every sixty obligations, 10,000 francs; a certain number, the sum of

which shall be determined in the annexed table, 500 francs. In this manner the loan will be paid in fifty years.

ART. 3. The Mexican govern ment shall appropriate fifty annuities of the value of 18,756,340, to pay the interest on this debt and to extinguish it.

ART. 4. There shall also be granted to subscribers to the loan a premium for the repayment of the capital first paid up, to be paid in fifty years.

For this purpose the Mexican government binds itself immediately to set aside a sum of seventeen millions of francs in the French three per cents.

These funds shall be deposited in the French bank of deposits and consignments, and the interest shall be added every three months, as a duty of the establishment.

In case these funds at the end of fifty years do not represent a sum sufficient to pay the premium of 340 francs to whom it is due, owing to the fall of French rentes, the Mexican government binds itself to make up the difference; and if there is an excess it shall belong to the Mexican government.

ART. 5. The present decision is made in duplicate, one to be deposited in the archives of the treasury commission of Mexico in Paris, the other to be sent to his majesty the emperor Maximilian.

Done in Paris, April 14, 1865.

JOSÉ HIDALGO.
CONDE CH. DE GERMINY.

[Enclosure No. 14.—From the London News, August 10.]

AN ENGLISH OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF MAXIMILIAN'S FINANCES.

The sudden arrival of the empress of Mexico heightens the interest which so many Englishmen have reason to take in the affairs of that country. It is natural to suppose that the emperor Maximilian would not have permitted the partner of his throne to make a sudden voyage to Europe in the ordinary French mail steamer unless the business on which she came was extremely urgent. The empress Charlotte is no merely ornamental appendage of a court; she is a woman of courage and dignity, of capacious understanding and practical aptitude, formed in all respects to figure with distinction in the great world. She has had a full share of the responsibilities as well as the perils attending her husband's remarkable adventure in the New World; and now that that enterprise has reached its crisis, the public will not be far wrong in supposing that the emperor Maximilian, tired of the periphrasis of diplomacy, has permitted his other self to visit the distant source and centre of his power to learn at first hand what further aid he was to expect from the creator of his throne and empire. There can be no doubt that this was the wisest step he could take; if the truth is to be got at the empress will find it. The Emperor of the French, however, may justly complain, if he will, for it is rather sharp practice to introduce feminine *naïveté* and persistence into an affair so mysterious and sacred as diplomacy without a moment's warning. The empress left Mexico before the great events which have recently taken place in Germany could be known there. Unless the emperor Maximilian had better information than was accessible to the European public two months ago, he must have been expecting when he parted with the empress to hear soon that Marshal Benedek had chastised Prussian insolence in the neighborhood of Berlin. The empress would probably receive intelligence of the battle of Sadowa, though scarcely of its vast political consequences, on her way to Europe. She finds the Emperor Napoleon preoccupied with affairs compared with which the Mexican enterprise was a holiday diversion. No one in France now thinks of the laurels which Mar-

shals Forey and Bazaine have gathered in the New World, and it is to be feared that the empress will not be able to dazzle Napoleon with prospects that will withdraw him from the cares that now crowd upon him in Europe. The empress of Mexico is a sensible woman, and will take in the situation at a glance. She will be able to judge for herself what are the chances of her husband receiving succor from Europe. The French army and the French treasury have been the reserve on which the emperor of Mexico has freely drawn for these two years. The empress will perceive that this is a crisis in which the imperial banker at Paris must in justice to himself draw together all his resources, close outstanding transactions, taking from his debtors whatever they are able to pay, but on no account parting with more. If the Mexican empire can stand when the French troops have been recalled, and supplies of French money have ceased to flow, well; if not, the empress will hardly find it worth while to make another voyage across the Atlantic.

The political, military, and financial condition of Mexico has been sketched with a masterly hand by the present French minister of foreign affairs in more than one despatch since the beginning of the year, and the facts constitute a full justification of the resolution announced by the French government to withdraw from its intervention in Mexico. But there are certain results of that intervention which will remain after the final settlement of accounts between the two emperors, and which greatly concern the British creditor. At the beginning of the year Mr. Middleton, secretary of the British legation in Mexico, sent home an approximate estimate of the amount of the revenue and expenditure of the Mexican empire to be calculated on for the year 1866. We reprint it:

Revenue.

Maritime custom-houses	$12, 500, 000
Internal custom-houses	5, 200, 000
Direct taxes upon property in town and country	1, 200, 000
Direct taxes upon commercial and industrial establishments	250, 000
Mining duties	650, 000
Stamped paper, post office and other miscellaneous taxes	1, 000, 000
Total	20, 800, 000

Expenditure.

Imperial house	$1, 740, 000
Ministry of the imperial house	30, 000
Ministry of state	340, 000
Ministry of foreign affairs	290, 000
Ministry of the interior	3, 700, 000
Ministry of justice	900, 000
Ministry of public instruction	438, 000
Ministry of war	12, 970, 000
Ministry of public works	1, 626, 000
Ministry of finance	3, 400, 000
Total	25, 434, 000

Mr. Middleton suggests that the customs revenue may produce a million dollars more than the amount stated above; but when he expressed that opinion he did not know that the French occupation, which had given such an impulse to consumption and importation, was about to cease. On the other hand, he points out that the cost of the French contingent is not included in the estimate. He observes, moreover, that "owing to the little progress being made in the

pacification of the country," the amount set down for military expenditure will not prove sufficient. The charges of the public debt remain to be added. They are as follows:

Public debt.

Interest and sinking fund on British convention....	$750,000	
Interest and sinking fund on Padre Moran convention,	150,000	
Interest and sinking fund on Spanish convention...	450,000	
Interest and sinking fund on the internal debt.....	1,200,000	
The government estimate of interest payable on the Mexican stocks in London, including the deferred bonds, and on the amounts of the Miramar and Paris loans, is calculated at.....	10,280,000	
		$12,830,000
Unpaid balances on Laguna, Seca, and Guadalajara conductas, estimated at		150,000
Sundry recognized claims.....		265,000
Subvention to Vera Cruz railway.....		1,350,000
Total		14,595,000

The general result is thus stated by Middleton:

Total revenue.....		20,800,000
Imperial house and the different departments of state.	$25,434,000	
Interest on public debt.....	14,595,000	
		40,029,000
Total deficit		19,229,000

Here, then, we find the Mexican government, in the third year of the French expedition, with an annual deficit nearly equal in amount to the gross revenue. But this is not all. Since Mr. Middleton wrote, the French government has come to an agreement with that of the emperor Maximilian, under which the debt owing to France for the expenses incurred in setting up the emperor Maximilian's throne is taken at ten millions sterling, upon which sum interest is to be paid at the rate of three per cent. So, then, it comes to this, that the French intervention, which was to have regenerated Mexico, but which, in fact, has merely intensified all the evils previously existing there, has saddled Mexico with an additional annual burden of two and a half millions sterling—a souvenir of the French occupation which the Mexicans will doubtless be careful to preserve.

[Enclosure No. 15.—Correspondence of the London Times.]

THE MEXICAN LOAN.—HOW THE FRENCH FUNDS HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED.

PARIS, *Saturday, August* 25, 1866.

The holders of Mexican debentures are beginning to make some stir; they consider that the French government, who set them the example of confidence, and thus encouraged them to lend their money, is morally bound to bear them unharmed. Of the encouragement given by the government there is no doubt; and the consciousness that they may have to make good the unavoidable shortcomings of Mexico may be one of the reasons why the Emperor Napoleon is

unable to give further financial assistance to that country. The grounds on which the creditors found their claims are obvious.

In April, 1864, the Archduke Maximilian took possession of the throne; and his first, or one of his first acts of sovereignty was to authorize a loan purporting to yield a revenue of near ten per cent. It was issued in Paris and in London; and the French government, with a view to inspire confidence in the solidity of its own work, took the new stock to the amount of 54,000,000 francs on account of its own claims on Mexico. In spite of this high patronage the loan did not succeed. In his report of 1865 the director of the credit mobilier said: "We have shrunk from no sacrifice to better the condition of our clients, but we regret to say that our efforts have brought us nothing but serious loss." Only a portion of the loan was realized, and the French treasury had, as security for its advances, stock completely unproductive.

Twelve months later the necessities of the Mexican government grew so pressing that indispensable military operations could not be continued vigorously. The emperor Maximilian was unable to raise money, and he naturally looked to France for help. The French government had only one of three things to do: to renounce the enterprise of founding a government in Mexico and recall its troops, to pledge the credit of France for the advantage of Mexico, or to give publicly such encouragement to a new loan as to insure its success. It chose the last, as the least difficult and the least onerous. The illusions of the government were not dissipated, and whatever the majority of the legislative body may have thought individually, they seemed by their vote to partake them, and scouted the objections of the few who were well informed of the condition of Mexico as part of the systematic opposition. The condition of the loan, together with the lotteries, corresponded to an interest of 12 per cent. A week or ten days before the subscription opened a debate took place on Mexican affairs in the legislative body. A member of the house, M. Corta, who had been some time before sent to Mexico for the purpose of collecting exact information, completed his mission and returned. He was present in the house when the debate began, and he was requested to give his opinion. He did so. Nothing could be more reassuring than his account of the resources of the country, and of the future reserved for it under the new monarchical regime. The opposition, not convinced by this flattering description, expressed their doubts of its accuracy, but the minister of state, M. Rouher, finished with a few vigorous touches the sketch which M. Corta had drawn. The minister's speech was, like all his speeches, copious, earnest, and eloquent. He pictured the crowds of immigrants who were about to pour into Mexico, the numerous banks that were to be founded, the commercial and navigation companies that were only waiting to be formed, the great manufactories that were to be opened, the mines of gold and silver, of iron and of coal, that were to be worked; "and as for the finances of Mexico," he said, "has not the information just given us by M. Corta satisfied the chamber beyond the possibility of a doubt as to the resources of the country? Have no fear, gentlemen; the able administration of the emperor Maximilian will restore and secure real prosperity to the finances of the empire, and give undoubted guarantees to those who lend him their money." The majority of the Chamber applauded. It is right to observe that the minister of state added: "There is here no question of the responsibility of the French government. France gives no guarantee, direct or indirect, in the matter of the Mexican loan." The minister could not have said less. Had he uttered only one word implying a positive guarantee of the French treasury, the debentures would have risen at one bound from 340 to 1,000 francs. The government desired and expected the success of the loan without the direct intervention of the treasury. A member of the opposition, M. Picard, objected: "The subscribers have already lost 20 per cent. on the first loan, and you speak now of a second;" to which the minister replied:

"You are thinking of the loan about to be made, and certainly if the holders who will read your speech have confidence in your assertions, they will be slow to give their money. This mistrust, this distrust, the criticism expressed by an irresponsible person, which spread disquiet and alarm in the country, will be powerless and vain. Your words will not be listened to, and they who do not listen to them are perfectly right."

These words were again applauded vociferously.

The second loan was issued by the comptoir d'escompte, and the comptoir d'escompte is debarred by its statutes from opening subscriptions of the kind without the special authorization of the minister of finance. The receivers-general throughout France were authorized by the minister, whose immediate subordinates they are, to receive subscriptions. The Mexican finance commission, under the presidency of M. de Germiny, senator, formerly minister of finance, and formerly governor of the Bank of France, took charge, at the instance of the government, of the funds collected and of the payment of the interest. A member of the council of state, M. Langlais, was sent by the government to Mexico for the purpose of introducing order in the Mexican finances. During the time the subscriptions were coming in, the confidence of the public was constantly kept up by the favorable accounts the Moniteur published every fortnight of the state of affairs in Mexico; and these accounts were regularly reproduced in the French papers.

The French treasury held, on account of its own claims, 54,000,000 francs in paper of the first loan; and it became necessary, with a view to reduce the floating debt, to realize that sum. The operation was not easy. Mexican credit was so low that the stock of the first issue, yielding more than 12 per cent. at that period, was not salable. The conversion of that stock, or *rentes*, into debentures, or obligations, with premiums and lotteries, was effected, and the minister of finance transferred his unproductive *rentes* into obligations. In his report to the Emperor, on the 20th of December last, he stated that he had utilized, "not without loss, the stock of which he had been the holder." The minister evidently thought that the new Mexican obligations which were thus thrown on the market were a safe investment.

From a statement published by M. Cochut it seems that the mode in which the funds raised for Mexico have been employed is as follows:

"The French government in the first loan of 1864 received 6,600,000 francs of *rente* in payment of expenses incurred and to meet private claims.

	Francs.
Of the portion offered to the public, in Paris and London, only 10,162,000 francs, of 6 per cent. *rente*, were negotiated, and produced	102, 000, 000
The second loan, that of 1865, by the issue of 500,000 bonds, at 540 francs, produced	170, 000, 000
Total	272, 000, 000
The commissions, expenses, &c., amounted to	26, 000, 000
The two loans, therefore, produced only	246, 000, 000

"From the net amount several sums were retained for different objects—for the reconstitution of the capital at the end of fifty years, for interest reserves, premiums, and lotteries, dividend due to England—forming a total sum of 212,000,000 francs, so that Mexico received only 34,000,000 francs of her loan. There remains at present in the French treasury 114,000 francs Mexican bonds not realized, 47,000 francs held in reserve for indemnities to be paid to French

subjects, and about 83,000 francs, representing the portion of the first loan unconverted, and which remain in the hands of the Mexican commission. The number of bonds held by the public is, therefore, about 756,000 francs, distributed over 300,000 families. Those people it is who have alone provided the necessities of the French army, and who even aided in reimbursing certain English creditors."

The creditors, then, look to the French government, whom they consider to have morally guaranteed the Mexican loan by the *quasi*-official character given to the subscription, for relief.

[Enclosure No. 16.—From the Messager Franco-Américain, New York, September 29, 1866.]

The Paris papers that copy the above document from the Moniteur add the following interesting remarks:

The Liberté asks what are the resources of Mexico to carry on the government, and says:

"According to documents furnished by the Constitutionnel a few weeks ago, the budget of receipts was fixed as follows:

"Custom-houses of the Gulf, 38 millions; of the Pacific, 15 millions; other sources, 42 millions; making a total of 95 millions.

"Mexico had already appropriated 75 per cent; of the Pacific revenues, and now gives 25 per cent.; therefore 15 millions must be deducted from the budget. In the second place, Mexico having given up 49 per cent. of the customs revenues to extinguish the English and Spanish debt, and now giving 50 per cent. of the same revenues, there remains but one per cent. on the Gulf custom-houses. The budget will then remain thus:

Gulf customs, one per cent	380, 000
Pacific customs	.....
Other revenues	42, 000, 000
Total	42, 380, 000

"Thus 42 millions is all the Mexican empire has to pay the internal debt with, to keep up the army, to endow public services and to pay the civil list.

"Where are these 42 millions except on paper? We cannot tell; we think them problematical. Everybody will agree with us, then, in saying the Mexican empire cannot last, and that the convention of July is equivalent to abdication.

"On the other hand, what are the custom-house revenues now worth? As much as 38 millions in the Gulf? Perhaps so, if Tampico and Matamoras—two ports out of the three—were not in the hands of the rebels.

"And what will Maximilian's assignment be good for after the fall of the empire and the evacuation of Mexico by our troops?"

The Avenir National is alarmed to see the French flag engaged for an indefinite time in Mexico. It says:

"Who does not see, that if the French remain in Mexico to secure the payment of interest and the extinguishment of the Mexican debt, they cannot quit when they please? It is not possible to preserve freedom of action, and measure the exercise of rights by the exigencies of its policy, curbed by the convention of the 30th of July, which is nothing less than the continuation of

that great error called the Mexican expedition. Now France would like to quit, for fear of danger in that direction; and we think she would prefer to have, instead of the convention of the 30th July, some arrangement to incur a present sacrifice, to save greater ones in future."

No. 50.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 9, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 30th ultimo, containing the convention concluded between the Emperor of the French and the Prince Maximilian, as published in the Moniteur Universel of Paris.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON. M ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 51.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, October 5, 1866.

MR. SECRETARY: I have the honor to communicate to you, for the information of the government of the United States, the copy of a communication which I received to-day from General Regules, chief of the army of the centre of the Mexican republic, dated in Zitacuaro the 9th of August last, reporting his movements up to that date, and the conduct of the French forces in the State of Michoacan. I also enclose a copy of my answer to-day to General Regules.

I profit by this occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC, ARMY OF THE CENTRE—GENERAL IN CHIEF.

In a private despatch which I sent you on the 30th ultimo from the Tiripio hacienda, I had the honor to inform you of the enemy's movement upon me, forcing me to evacuate Zitacuaro, his occupation and retirement, and my return on the 1st instant. I remained here till the 7th, when I determined to make a movement upon Anganguco, garrisoned by only four hundred traitors, but had to give up the idea because I heard that eight hundred French, on their way

from Queretaro to Toluca by Morelia, had gone to San Felipe del Obraje to defend it. And, in fact, the French did reach Anganguco yesterday, with about five hundred traitors picked up from the neighboring detachments, and to-day marched upon this place, which I regret to be obliged to give up once more, because I have neither sufficient forces nor munitions to defend it.

You will perhaps think it strange that I call your attention to such trivial circumstances, quite natural in our warfare, where the enemy is not only striving to defend places that I threaten, but is struggling in his turn to seize those that I hold; but you must know what I do is of great importance, when you consider that the expedition sent against me is mostly composed of French troops commanded by French officers.

When the French declared they had not come to Mexico to interfere with the internal affairs of the country, but only to force respect for treaties violated by the government of the republic, and to protect the interests of their fellow-citizens; and now as that had been effected, they determined to withdraw their troops, considering the expedition at an end, I cannot understand how and with what right they continue to make war on people who are opposing the government of the usurper, Maximilian, and give aid to places occupied by traitors who sustain him.

Such outrageous conduct, without provocation, (for my forces have never yet attacked them,) compels me to make it known to you, because it shows the absolute want of loyalty in the French government, the meanness it makes use of to deceive the world, particularly the United States, to which you are accredited.

I hope, therefore, you will make a proper use of the facts I here communicate with the government at Washington and the supreme government of the republic, and will tell me, in your reply, what conduct I ought to pursue. In the mean time it is understood that I will continue to sustain the rights of Mexico against domestic or foreign foes on all occasions, except when I am certain of defeat.

I protest to you my attentive consideration.

Independence and liberty! Headquarters at Zitacuaro, August 9, 1866.

N. DE REGULES.

C. MATIAS ROMERO,

Minister Plenipotentiary of the Mexican Republic in Washington.

WASHINGTON, *October 5*, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.]

MEXICAN LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, October 5, 1866.

I had the honor of receiving to-day your communication of the 9th of August last, from Zitacuaro, in which you inform me of the movements you had made up to that time with the forces under your command, and of the conduct of the French forces that were marching from Queretaro to Toluca, by way of Morelia, having fallen back from San Felipe del Obraje to Angangueo to aid a body of traitors in the latter place, which they heard you were going to attack.

This circumstance, and the French afterwards going from Angangueo to Zitacuaro to attack you, (after their government had assured the United States, as long ago as the 5th of April last, that it would return to the principle of non-inter-

vention, and would withdraw its troops from the republic,) show that the French government has acted with notorious disloyalty, inasmuch as, while saying one thing in its diplomatic notes, it authorizes its soldiers to do the contrary.

For these reasons you request me to communicate the above facts to the government of the United States and to the supreme government of the republic, and to advise you how to act in view of the circumstances.

In reply, I have the honor to inform you that, in accordance with your wishes, and believing the nature of the case requires it, I this day transmit your note to the ministry of foreign relations of the republic and to the Department of State of the United States. Furthermore, I must inform you that, as the French government has made no engagement with ours to withdraw its troops, or to return to the principle of non-intervention, it is not bound to us, and we are under no obligations to it. The war between Mexico and France is the same, as it relates to us, as it was before the arrangement between the French government and the United States ; and our duty now, as it always has been, is to continue the contest to the extent of our abilities, without trying to effect a truce with the French army, which, in reality, has no existence.

The engagements of the French government are with the United States and have nothing to do with our government; yet, as the government of the republic is on friendly terms with that of the United States, I think it would be, at least, an act of courtesy on our part to communicate to it all information we may have in regard to the course followed by the French in Mexico, with a view that it may make a proper use of such information in accordance with its sense of honor and its interest; but we have no right to demand anything of it.

I am sorry to say to you that I have not yet received the communication you mention to have addressed to me from the hacienda of Tiripitio, on the 31st of July last. The previous one, I received before the one I am now answering, is dated in Zitacuaro, the 12th of July.

For these reasons I repeat to you the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO, *Secretary.*

C. General NICOLAS DE REGULES,
Chief of the Army of the Centre.

WASHINGTON, *October 5*, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 52.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 12, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 5th instant, containing some information with regard to the military movements of General Regules and the situation of affairs at Michoacan; also a copy of your letter to General Regules.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 53.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, October 10, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, various documents intercepted from the agents of the usurper Maximilian, all of them dated in Brussels the 17th of September, and signed by Felix Eloin, the so-called state counsellor in commission, and are as follows:

1. A letter addressed to the usurper, informing him that the French government disapproves of the appointment of the French Generals Osmont and Friant, as ministers, and seems disposed to get rid of Maximilian; and advising him to appeal to the popular vote, when the French forces are withdrawn from Mexico.

2. A telegram addressed to the same, to be forwarded immediately from New York, containing a synopsis of the letter.

3. A letter addressed to Don Juan Devincenties, so-called director of civil affairs in the private office of the usurper, in regard to his private interests.

4. A communication to Don N. Rosas, entitled consular agent of the empire of Mexico in New York, requesting him to send the mentioned letters to their address.

I think these documents of great importance, as they plainly show the state of relations between the French agent in Mexico and his chief, the Emperor Napoleon, and the plans of the former, in case the French army or a portion of it is withdrawn from Mexico.

M. Felix Eloin is a Belgian who enjoyed the confidence of the late King Leopold, who bequeathed him to his son-in-law Maximilian, when the latter left, seeking for adventures in Mexico, as a person of discretion whom he could trust, and whose advice might be of service. He has been looked upon in Mexico for some time as Maximilian's director. Not long ago he was sent to Europe to operate for the usurper, who is conscious that his stay in Mexico depends solely upon foreign support. The letter was written after his interview with Maximilian's wife at Miramar, and it is certain that its contents express the ideas of Doña Carlota Leopoldina and those of her husband, rather than the writer's private opinions.

Taking this into consideration I do not think it unreasonable to believe that M. Felix Eloin gives in his letter the desires, sentiments, and plans of his master, particularly when we reflect that he is one of those courtiers who tell their sovereigns only what will please them and what conforms to their wishes and aims.

From these premises I deduct the following facts:

1. The relations between the Emperor Napoleon and his agent Maximilian are not as cordial as the latter would like, because, it seems, the former is beginning to see the absurdity and impossibility of undertaking to establish an Austro-French monarchy in Mexico, and seems to be disposed to give up the idea, and this is not at all pleasing to the latter.

2. That Maximilian intends to remain in Mexico, even if the French army is withdrawn from the republic, and submit the question of his rule to the popular vote. This proves at the same time that even his friends and servants have little confidence in the validity of the titles with which he now pretends to govern, since they find it necessary to confirm them by an appeal to popular suf-

frage, when the people shall be free from the duress of foreign intervention, as he says in his own words.

3. That the usurper Maximilian, not satisfied with the calamities that his ambition has brought on Mexico, seeks to harm his own country by putting himself up as a rival of his brother, the Emperor of Austria. The allusions made to him on this subject by M. Felix Eloin would be taken as an insult by any other than Maximilian, and it is certain they would not have been made if the author was not certain they would be well received.

4. That even Maximilian's servants are despairing of his cause in Mexico, and only on account of his personal difficulties with the Emperor Napoleon, and to stand well in public opinion in Europe, and be qualified for a candidate to the throne of Austria, or any other in prospect, he is desired to take what is called a respectable departure, so as not to damage his reputation, and in a different way from that proposed by the Emperor Napoleon.

5. That even in the eyes of the own servants of Maximilian, the French agent in Mexico, French policy has been darkened *by odious acts* productive of *fatal consequences*, for which it must be responsible sooner or later.

In conclusion, what must we think of the good faith of the Emperor of the French, even towards those who serve him best, when we see him making promises of future aid, and suffering his Mexican agent to make ministers of his own soldiers and tries to place the entire revenues of the country at his disposal, and just as this is done he disapproves the conduct of the French generals who accept portfolios from Maximilian, which was only doing openly what had been done secretly ever since the beginning of the intervention by every member of the French army, with the full consent and authority of the government?

Such are the considerations that have occurred to me in view of the documents which I now send you. Their authenticity and the importance of the subject are sufficient reasons, in my opinion, for submitting them to the serious consideration of the government of the United States.

Thinking you might look upon these documents from a different point of view than that which I have taken, and believing them to be of use to the government of the United States in the direction of its future policy in relation to the affairs of Mexico, I have concluded to send them to you in the original, just as I received them.

I am pleased to have this occasion of renewing to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.—Translation.]

BRUSSELS, 17*th seventh month*, 1866.

SIRE: The article from the Moniteur Français, disavowing the entrance on the administration of war and of finance by the two French generals, Osmond and Friant, proves that henceforth, and without a blush, the mask is cast aside. The mission of General Castelnau, aide-de-camp, and having the confidence of the Emperor, although secret, cannot have other object, in my opinion, than to seek to bring on a solution as soon as possible. To seek to explain its conduct, which history will pass upon, the French government would like that an abdication might precede the return of the army, and that thus it would be possible for it to act *alone*, to reorganize a new state of things, capable of assuring its interests and those of its countrymen. I have an internal conviction that your

majesty would not give this satisfaction to a policy which must in the end, sooner or later, be answerable for the odium of its acts and the fatal consequences which will be the result. The speech of Seward, the toast to Romero, the attitude of the President, result of the cowardice of the French cabinet, are grave facts, destined to increase the difficulties and discourage the boldest. However, I have the deep conviction that to abandon the game before the return of the French army would be interpreted as an act of weakness, and the emperor, holding his authority from a popular vote, it would be to the people of Mexico, *relieved from the pressure of a foreign intervention*, that he should take a new appeal; it is for him to demand the material and financial support indispensable to subsistence and growth.

If such appeal is not listened to, then his majesty, having accomplished his noble mission to its close, will return to Europe with all the prestige which accompanied him on his departure, and in the midst of important events, which will not fail to arise, will play the part which in all respects pertains to him.

Leaving Miramar on the 4th of this month, with the purpose of embarking at St. Nazaire, after having received the orders of her majesty the empress, I was constrained again to adjourn my departure. It needed that high influence to change a determination which my devotion counselled as the fulfilment of a duty.

I have been keenly disappointed in learning that my numerous despatches of the months of June and July had not reached your majesty in due season, put under cover to Bombelles, and accompanied by long letters written to that devoted friend, to be communicated to your majesty. I was far from anticipating his departure from Mexico. They have now lost all the interest which they derived from events so unforeseen, which then so rapidly succeeded each other. I regret above all this vexatious incident, if it should for a moment have awakened doubts in your majesty's mind of my unceasing desire faithfully to fulfil my duty.

By crossing through Austria I was able to ascertain the general discontent which reigns throughout. Nothing is yet done. The Emperor is *discouraged;* the people are fretful, and openly call for his abdication; sympathies with your majesty are spreading, evidently, through all the territory of the empire. In Venetia, a whole party calls for you, its former governor. But when a government disposes of elections, under the rule of universal suffrage, it is easy to foresee the result.

The cholera rages through Europe with extreme violence, and everywhere makes numerous victims.

In accordance with the latest orders from your majesty, I have despatched by this courier a telegram in cipher to Rosas to advise your majesty of the arrival of General Castelnau, and of the disavowal given to Osmont and Friaut.

I have learned through G—— that the doubtful attitude taken at Paris by 2146 was becoming every day more public. For some time he heaps consideration and money on young Salvador, who don't himself understand at all why this change is. I think it necessary to recall the young man to my side, while expecting the end of his holidays.

The state of the Emperor Napoleon's health engages seriously all Europe. His departure for Biarritz seems indefinitely postponed. Assurance is made that severe diabetes now complicates the inflammation of the bladder, which causes his suffering. As for her majesty, the empress Carlotta, in the midst of the flowers which make a garden of enchantment of Miramar, she shines in the full brilliancy of perfect health.

I have the honor to be, sire, your majesty's very humble, very devoted, and very faithful servant and subject,

F. ELOIN

Annexed to Mr. Romero's letter of October 10, 1866 :

SIRE : The article of the French Moniteur, denying that the two French generals, Osmont and Friaut, have permission to assume the departments of war and finance, proves that from this time the mask is shamelessly thrown aside. The mission of General Castelnau, aide-de-camp and confidential servant of the Emperor, although secret, can have no other aim, in my judgment, than to provoke a solution as soon as possible. With a view to explain its conduct, of which history must be the judge, the French government wishes that an abdication should precede the return of the army, and that thus it may be able to proceed *alone* to reorganize a new state of affairs, capable of securing its own interests and those of its subjects. I have a firm conviction that your majesty will not give this satisfaction to a policy which must sooner or later answer for the odious character of its acts, and for the fatal consequences which must follow them. The speech of Seward, the toast to Romero,* the attitude of the President, results of the cowardice of the French cabinet, are grave facts, destined to increase the difficulties, and to discourage the bravest. Nevertheless I have a firm belief that the abandonment of the cause before the return of the French army would be interpreted as an act of weakness ; and as the emperor holds his authority by a popular vote it is to the Mexican people, freed from the pressure of a foreign intervention, that he should make a new appeal. It is from it that he must demand the material and financial support indispensable to the existence and increased greatness of the empire.

If this appeal should not be heard, then your majesty, having accomplished your noble mission to the very end, will return to Europe with all the prestige which accompanied you in your departure, and in the midst of the important circumstances which cannot fail to arise you will be able to play the role which by all considerations belongs to you.

Setting out for Miramar the 4th of this month, with the intention of embarking at St. Nazaire, after having received the orders of her majesty the empress' I was compelled to defer my departure again. It needed this high influence to change a determination which my devotion urged upon me as the accomplishment of a duty.

I was greatly disappointed upon learning that my numerous despatches of the months of June and July did not reach your majesty at the proper time, sent under cover to Bombellas, and accompanied by long letters written to that devoted friend, to be communicated to your majesty. I was far from foreseeing his departure from Mexico. They have lost to-day all the interest which they borrowed from the unexpected events which then followed so rapidly. I especially regret this unlucky incident if it has for one instant awakened in the mind of your majesty a doubt of my incessant desire to faithfully perform my duty.

In crossing Austria I was able to observe the general discontent which reigns there. Nothing is yet done. The emperor is discouraged, the people impatient, and publicly demand his abdication. The sympathies for your majesty ostensibly extend all over the empire. In Venetia a whole party is anxious to proclaim its former governor. But when a government arranges the elections under the rule of universal suffrage it is easy to foresee the result.

The cholera rages all over Europe with extreme violence, and everywhere finds numerous victims.

In accordance with the last orders of your majesty I send by this mail a telegram in cipher to Rosas, in order to warn your majesty of the arrival of General Castelnau, and of the disavowal given to Osmont and Friaut.

I have learned by G——— that the doubtful attitude taken at Paris by 2146 becomes each day more public. For some time past he has loaded with

*Almonte, Maximilian's minister at Paris.

favors and money young Salvador, who himself understands nothing of this change. I think it is necessary to take the young man back near me until the end of his vacation.

The state of the health of the Emperor N ——— seriously disturbs all Europe. His departure for Biarritz seems indefinitely postponed. It is said that a severe dibetes now complicates the inflammation of the bladder from which he is suffering. As for her majesty the empress Charlotte, in the midst of her flowers, which make Miramar an enchanting garden, she shines in all the lustre of perfect health.

I have the honor to be, sire, your majesty's most humble, most devoted, and most faithful servant and subject,

F. ELOIN.

BRUSSELS, *September* 17, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

1029, 1462, 1729, 1333, 1903; Osmont Friant 598, 163, 1395; Castelneau 589, 2920, 223, 1060, 1846, 1170; Lavalett 1635, 220, 176; De Moustier 1064, 1443, 942, 1225, 171, 1361, 192, 2146, 658, 371, 1965, 1608, 943, 1270, 590, 146, 1896, 103, 223, 2170, 1029, 715, 1296, 1997, 1785, 1205.

F. ELOIN.

His Majesty the EMPEROR, *Mexico.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

BRUSSELS, *September* 17, 1866.

MY DEAR DEVINCENTIES: I have received through Blain, with great pleasure, the details you send me about my private interests. I thank you for them very sincerely. I am glad to know that my horses do not consume my savings. If you can rent my house for $140 I shall be delighted, provided it leaves me the right to occupy some rooms in it at my return, which has been delayed only to follow the Empress's instructions. As for my part, I am very uneasy here. I long to return there and put myself under the orders of my sovereign, to take my small part in the difficulties which must soon break out. Continue, my dear friend, being devoted to our Emperor, and be sure that, for the time being he loses sight of you, he is not able to forget the devoted services you have rendered him. If you can give me details of the situation, I trust in your good friendship you will do it. Remember me kindly to Lambley and Sierra, and believe in my affectionate sentiments.

F. ELOIN.

For true copy from the original:

IGNO. MARISCAL.

[Enclosure No. 4.—Translation.]

Mr. CONSUL: According to his Majesty's order, I beg you as soon as possible to place the emperor Maximilian in possession of the telegram in cipher hereto annexed. The orders of his Majesty are to despatch it telegraphically by way of New Orleans, Florida, and Havana, and thence by Vera Cruz, following the telegraph, to Mexico. As for the despatches herewith, please also to have them reach Vera Cruz by the readiest means.

Receive, Mr. Consular Agent, my cordial salutations.

F. ELOIN,
Counsellor of State on service.

Mr. ROSAS,
Consular Agent of the empire of Mexico at New York.

No. 54.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 15, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 10th instant, containing various documents which were intercepted, addressed to the Prince Maximilian, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 55.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, October 12, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, the documents expressed in the accompanying index, some of which have lately come from Mexico, giving the state of affairs in that republic. I think proper to call your attention to the documents numbered 2, 4 and 6, where you will find that the French agents in Mexico continue organizing their companies of so-called Mexican chasseurs, with the soldiers and officers of the French army.

In documents marked 1 and 3 you will see that when the so-called government, created by the intervention, has occasion to select subaltern agents for any purpose whatever, it takes Frenchmen, as you may readily suppose; and yet the French government calls the state of things it has created in Mexico the national government.

It apears also from a circular of the French general, Friaut, intendant general of the expeditionary army, and appointed minister of finance for a short time by the usurper, that the sub-intendants of the French army were authorized by him to act as sub-intendants, inspectors or controlers for the so-called empire.

I accept this occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Index of documents sent by the Mexican legation in Washington to the Department of State of the United States, with the note of this date, on the present state of affairs in Mexico.

No.	Date.	Contents.
	1866.	
1	July 18	Circular No. 190 of the minister of finance of the so-called empire, appointing various Frenchmen to direct the assessment of houses and lands for a direct tax.
2	July 8	Order of the day issued by the French general, Neigre, on the 29th of June last, incorporating the Belgian legion in Mexico with the ninth battalion of the so-called Mexican chasseurs.
3	Aug. 2	Circular of the French general, Friant, authorizing the sub-intendants of the French army to act as sub-intendants, inspectors, and controlers for the so-called empire.
4	Sept. 6	An official relation, from the war department of the so-called empire, of the military despatches issued from the 25th of August to the 5th of September, from which it appears that only French officers have been appointed to command the corps of Mexican chasseurs.
5	Sept. 10	Correspondence from the city of Mexico, with general notices of the situation.
6	Sept. 10	Correspondence from Vera Cruz, mentioning the enlistment of the greater part of the eighty-first of the French line into the corps of Mexican chasseurs.
7	Sept. 16	Speech of Maximilian at the anniversary meeting of the independence of Mexico, declaring he will not quit his post.
8	Sept. 27	Decree of Maximilian, ordering the confiscation of the property of the patriots who are fighting for the independence of Mexico.
9	Sept. 30	Letter from Vera Cruz, mentioning the return to Orizaba of the eighty-first of the line of the French army, that had gone to Vera Cruz to embark on the steamer Tampico.

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

WASHINGTON, *October* 12, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.—Circular 190.]

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE,
Mexico, June 18, 1866.

His majesty the emperor has been pleased to suspend for the time being the appointment of director general of direct taxes, and in the mean time appoints that official as assessor of city and country property for the purpose of direct taxation, which he orders to be done throughout the empire, under the direction of the treasury inspectors, and according to the territorial division expressed below:

Mr. Le Maistre will direct the work in the department of the valley of Mexico, Tula, Toluca, Tulancingo, Iturbide, Queretaro, Jalisco, Autlan, Colima, Mazatlan, Matamoras, New Leon, and Coahuila.

A credit of $15,000 is opened to defray the expenses of the assessment in these departments.

Mr. Delabaume will direct the work in the departments of Puebla, Tlaxcala and Vera Cruz. For this expense a credit of $1,500 is opened.

Mr. Thebault will direct in the department of Guanajuato; and a credit of $2,000 is opened for the expenses.

Mr. Derenty will direct in the departments of Aguas Calientes, Zacatecas and Fresnilla, at the expense of $2,500.

Mr. Sauvalle will direct in the departments of Durango and San Luis Potosi, at an expense of $1,500. These inspectors shall nominate controllers to act under their orders in the departments where they are appointed, who get their

commissions from the treasury department, and receive a salary specified in their commissions.

The open credits will be paid to the orders of the chief inspectors, who are required to give an account of the sums they receive. This I make known to you for your information and consequent action, so that you may give the necessary aid to the persons appointed as it may be required.

E. VILLALVA,
Sub-secretary of Finance.

It was circulated among the civil prefects of the departments and imperial commissaries of the territorial divisions.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

MEXICO, *July* 8, 1866.

A serious spell of sickness prevented me from writing to you by the last steamers, but you have lost nothing by waiting, for I have some important news to communicate. In the first place you must know that the Belgian legion, after a mutiny at Monterey, was disbanded and incorporated with the ninth battalion of Mexican Hunters. This news, which caused a great sensation in Mexico—particularly in the Belgian colony—was followed by a report of the arrest of Colonel Vandersmissen, which turned out false.

As to the act of insubordination committed by our countrymen, many causes were given for it. The pretext was a delay of some weeks in pay, but dissatisfaction had prevailed for some time. The Belgians complain that none of the promises made them on their departure from Belgium have been kept. Some say the bounty money has never been paid them. The Tacambaro prisoners claim their back pay during the time of their captivity.

There was, in reality, no outbreak, but seditious words were uttered in the presence of the commander by angry men, ill paid, badly clothed, and, perhaps, excited by drink.

The order issued by General Neigre the next day, the 29th of June, fixes the future position of this Belgian corps:

"His majesty the emperor Maximilian has decided that the Belgian contingent as now organized shall be disbanded.

"A battalion of cazadores shall be formed of the elements that compose it, and shall be called Battalion No. 9 of the Empress's Hunters. Soldiers that enlisted for six years will be compelled to remain in the service of the emperor of Mexico till the expiration of their term of service; and also those officers who were only soldiers at the time of their arrival, and not officers in the Belgian army. Those of them who wish to quit Mexico will be discharged, but will not be sent back nor indemnified by the Mexican government.

"The Mexican government will retain the officers in the same grade they had in the Belgian contingent as Mexican officers. Officers of the Belgian army who obtained a two years' leave from their government to serve in Mexico will be consulted personally to know if they wish a continuance of leave in order to serve in Mexico.

"Those wishing to remain will be put into the battalion of Hunters; those who desire to return to Belgium will be sent to Mexico. As there will be no colonel in this new organization, Mr. Vandersmissen cannot belong to it; he must, therefore, present himself in Mexico and receive orders from his majesty the emperor.

"Marshal Bazaine orders General Douay to disband the body immediately and to proceed to its reorganization anew.

"B. NEIGRE,
"*General Commanding the Auxiliary Division.*"

[Enclosure No. 3.—From La Sociedad.—Mexico, August 28, 1866.]

TREASURY DIVISION.

The following was published in Zacatecas:

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE—MILITARY SUB-INTENDANCY—TREASURY INSPECTOR OF THE STATE OF GUANAJUATO.

LEON, *August* 2, 1866.

To the Citizen Prefect:

The military intendant, Mr. Friaut, appointed minister of finance, charges me to send you the following despatch, which was received by telegraph:

"The minister of finance gives full power to sub-intendants or officers to perform the duties of sub-intendants, inspectors, and controllers in all the offices of finance, each in his respective department. The prefects will accredit these officers to the chief of the bureau.

"FRIAUT, *Minister of Finance.*"

Accept, Mr. Prefect, the assurances of my high consideration.

DAMARTIAS,

Military Sub-inspector of the Treasury in the Department of Guanajuata.

[Enclosure No. 4.—From the Diario del Imperio, September 6, 1866.]

Official military despatches, War Department.—Despatches sent from this department between the 27th of August and the 5th instant.

APPOINTMENTS.

Luis Rovichon, sergeant of the French army, as assistant depositary for the fifth battalion of the line.

Sergeant Adrian Page, sub-instructor for the same corps.

Carlos Victor François, sergeant of the French army, as assistant treasurer for the twelfth of the line.

Carlos A. Cöffer, of the same grade in the French army, as sub-instructor for the same corps.

Carlos A. Maunier, same rank, as assistant depositary for the same battalion.

Isidoro E. Breset, same rank in the French army, as assistant treasurer for the sixth battalion of the line.

Luis E. Trorey, of the same grade in the French army, as sub-instructor for the same corps.

For the first battalion of hunters—promotions.—Commander F. A. L. Desandré to be lieutenant colonel; Captain Miguel V. Bellin to be battalion commander.

Second battalion.—Commander L. A. D. Chabrol to be lieutenant colonel, and Captain Gustave Badon to be battalion commander.

Third battalion.—Commander Carlos Leon Guillemain to be lieutenant colonel, and Captain Luis J. Lanes to be battalion commander.

Fourth battalion.—Commander Juan F. Herbé to be lieutenant colonel, and Captain Julio Bonet battalion commander.

Fifth battalion.—Commander Emile Layn to be lieutenant colonel, and Captain Juan S. Lanause commandant.

Sixth battalion.—Commander Leon Didier to be lieutenant colonel, and Captain Simon Sorlieu commandant.

Seventh battalion.—Commander P. L. Maurant to be lieutenant colonel, and Captain B. A. Poviel commandant.

Eighth battalion.—Commander Zacharias M. Festal, to be lieutenant colonel; Sergeant Juan P. Forche, sub-lieutenant of the battalion of the line; Sergeant Juan F. Jenni, sub-lieutenant in the same corps; Francis Finelli and Pablo Fisian, sub-lieutenants in the fourth battalion of hunters; and Captain Manuel Aviles, of the aids, to be captain of infantry.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

CITY OF MEXICO, *Monday, September* 10, 1866.

Up to the present time Napoleon has not given any orders, either direct or indirect, countermanding the order for the evacuation of this country by his expeditionary corps.

Every idle rumor from Paris is construed into a favorable circumstance by the insignificantly small party of imperial Mexicans. Men like Señor Don José Maria de Landa, who were directly instrumental in securing Napoleon's intervention in Mexican affairs, are very deeply interested in all the phases of Mexican politics. Such men fear—and they have publicly expressed their fears—that the return of the liberal or republican government will be the signal for the confiscation of their estates and exiling them to some inhospitable portion of sterile Yucatan, where now so many patriotic liberals are banished to by the monarchical power temporarily residing at, and presiding over, the "halls of the Montezumas." A very large majority of the wealthy Mexicans who have been identified with the imperial farce during the last four years are realizing their property, preparatory to going abroad and viewing the settlement that must shortly take place here from a secure and hospitable stand-point. Many have already gone.

No great emigration of the Mochos may be counted upon, for the adherents of the empire are very few, and have been growing less and less during the last twelve months.

There are not a dozen families of the capital that are avowed imperialists, and we allege, after much careful observation, that there are not twenty wealthy men of Mexico who would gather round Maximilian in an hour of trouble.

So destructive has been the policy pursued by the emperor while here that it is asserted there is not a merchant nor even a French dealer in the country (and there are thousands of French merchants and miners) who does not desire him to abdicate and evacuate the country.

NATIONAL BANKRUPTCY.

Commerce is paralyzed. The so-called government is a bankrupt usurpation, hourly threatened with overwhelming numbers of outraged patriots, who, though poorly clad, still more poorly armed, without pay or hope of reward, are gathering round their chieftain's standard, to overwhelm and crush, with one powerful blow, the enemies of their country's liberties and sacred rights.

EXECUTIONS.

The imperialists have hung and executed by bullet and garrote without trial; they have branded the liberals as brigands, outlawed them, confiscated their homes and desecrated their land, and no wonder that the friends of the monarchy are fearful and dread the change of government, that cannot, at the furthest, be postponed until January, 1867.

The tone of the imperial press is very mournful. Not a day passes without rumors of the pronouncing against the empire of influential leaders, the evacuation of cities, and the gathering of the liberals.

[Enclosure No. 6.]

VERA CRUZ, *September* 10—10 p. m., 1866.

To-day those who study the changes in the situation with great care exhibited a very considerable degree of uneasiness in consequence of some strange reports which were received from the interior. To-day it was generally said that the eighty-first French regiment of the line was *en route* for Vera Cruz to embark at once for Europe, but on investigation it was found that only one battalion of said regiment was coming down, and that the remaining portion (from 1,500 to 2,000 men) were ready to take up the flag of the empire (dropping the flag of France) as soon as the battalion particularly specified above left Mexico. We know it to be a fact that France's money is being expended in large amounts, in every direction, to increase the strength of the imperial army. And we also know that, notwithstanding the several moves already made, there is nothing to show that it is the sincere intention of France to leave the country.

In to-day's issue of La Revista, of this city, we find the following:

The last news from Europe relative to Mexican affairs contradicts some of the reports received by the Sonora. * * * The French government permits the enlistment in France of volunteers, and will give to the imperial government of Mexico arms and munitions of war. The return of the expeditionary corps, nevertheless, will take place as has been stated.

Those who have studied the very latest developments are asking: "What difference will it make to the United States government whether Maximilian is supported by French regiments, directly known as such, or French regiments in disguise under the colors of the empire?"

[Enclosure No. 7.]

Maximilian's speech on the 16th of September, 1866.

MEXICANS: Now for the third time, as chief of the nation, I celebrate with you with pleasure and enthusiasm our great and glorious family festival. In these days of patriotic remembrances it is always a necessity on my part to address frank and faithful words to my patriotic fellow-citizens, and to participate with them in the general rejoicings. Fifty-six years have passed since was heard the first cry of our nation's new birth. It is a half century during which Mexico has been struggling for her independence and pacific consolidation. The time seems long, undoubtedly, for patriotism is justly impatient, but in the history of a people just coming into life it is simply the period of a severe apprenticeship, which every nation must undergo if it wishes to be one day great and powerful. Without blood and without affliction there are no great human triumphs, no political developments, no durable progress. The lesson which this first period of our free history addresses to us is that of ultimate sacrifices, of cordial, generous, and frank union, and, more than all, immutable faith in our success. Let all loyal patriots support with energy, each in his sphere, the great work of regeneration. Then my labors will not be sterile, and I will be able to follow, conscientiously, the difficult path on which I have entered. Let them have confidence and good will, in order that we may one day reap the fruits so desired of peace and prosperity. I am still firm in the position which the votes of the nation have made me occupy, notwithstanding all the difficulties, and without failing in my duties; for it is not in adverse moments that a true Hapsburg abandons his post. The majority of the nation elected me to defend its most sacred rights against the enemies of order, property, and true independence. The Almighty should, therefore, protect us, it being a sacred

truth that "the voice of the people is the voice of God." This was shown in a miraculous manner at the time of our first national rising; it will be shown in the present regeneration. The great heroes of our country look upon our efforts. Let us follow their immortal examples without vacillation, without distrust; and to us will then belong the enviable task of consolidating and crowning the work of independence, which they began with their precious blood.

Mexicans! long live our independence and the memory of its glorious martyrs!

[Enclosure No. 8.]

Maximilian, emperor of Mexico:

With the advice of our ministerial council, we have determined to decree and have decreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1. All property belonging to persons now residing out of the country, or in places held by the disaffected, who oppose the imperial government adopted by the people of Mexico, shall be administered in each district by a special committee composed of the municipal alcalde, the collector of revenue and a proprietor named by the prefect.

ARTICLE 2. The sale of this property is forbidden while the owners remain in the ranks of the enemies to order and the empire.

ARTICLE 3. The revenue from this property shall form a special and separate fund for the exclusive benefit of the families that have suffered by the war which the disaffected are waging against the empire.

ARTICLE 4. The accounts of this fund shall be kept in the treasury department.

ARTICLE 5. At the end of each month the amount received shall be distributed among the families whose wants are considered just and well founded. The distribution shall be determined by the council of ministers.

ARTICLE 6. Our ministers of government and finance are charged with the execution of this decree in the part that concerns them.

Done in Mexico on the 27th of September, 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

By the emperor:

TEOFILO MARIN,
Minister of Government.

By the emperor:

JOAQUIN TORRES LARRAINZAR,
Acting Minister of Finance.

[Enclosure No. 9.]

Extract of a private letter dated Vera Cruz, September 30, 1866.

The eighty-first regiment French infantry arrived at Vera Cruz on the 26th of this month, ready to embark on board the steamer Tampico, the first of the transports which is to bring the army back to France. The others are the Rhone, the Calvados, the Gironde and l'Avegron, now on the eve of sailing from Havre to Vera Cruz. During the short stay of the eighty-first at Vera Cruz telegraphic despatch from General Bazaine came, ordering the regiment to fall back upon Orizaba, where it has actually gone.

As an explanation for this retrograde movement it is stated that marshal Bazaine had received a telegram from Europe by the Atlantic cable *via* New Orleans and the steamer Sonora, by which he had been advised that General de

Castelnau was on his way to Vera Cruz, and that the wishes of the French government were to suspend the embarcation of the French troops until he had arrived. This, of course, has given rise to several comments, which, resting on no foundation, are not worth reproducing here.

The *Pajaro Verde* of August 1 says of the eighty-first regiment, stationed at the city of Mexico: "A French officer assures us that, in fulfilment of orders, this corps will leave for France in November; but as all who wish can remain in the service of Mexico, it is said that of nearly all the battalions only the colonel and the musicians will embark at Vera Cruz for their mother country. We do not hold ourselves responsible for this statement."

No. 56.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 15, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 12th ultimo, containing various documents relating to the state of affairs in Mexico, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 57.

Señor Romero to Mr. Hunter.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION,
Washington, November 5, 1866.

The minister of the Mexican republic presents his compliments to William Hunter, esq., and has the honor to transmit several late articles from the Paris press relating to Mexican affairs and containing important information, showing the change of public opinion in France in regard to that delicate question.

[Enclosure No. 1.—From La Liberté.—Translation.]

THE EVACUATION OF MEXICO.

PARIS, *October* 3, 1866.

The recent news from Mexico is of a serious nature that does not surprise us, but requires prompt action on the part of the government. Why should we be longer deceived by words and illusions? Everybody believes that the Mexican empire is near its end, and we need not try to prolong the agony of a dying government. The truth is we had better wind up the unfortunate affair at once. It is plain that France only makes additional sacrifices in endeavoring to carry out an expedition that should not have been commenced. To keep up the empire we must support Maximilian with fifty thousand men and five hundred millions of francs, and risk a profitless war with the United States; and it is certain France will not consent to such a sacrifice, so the business better be closed up

at once. First, let Maximilian resign. On this point there will be no trouble. He accepted the place reluctantly, and will give it up without hesitation. His ignorance of the country, and what he was to undertake, will excuse him before the world.

When Maximilian is gone France will be in the same position towards Mexico that she was before the vote of the notables electing him; that is, she will front an enemy, with whom she will have to treat on the best terms. She will not venture to start another government, but will treat with Juarez, because he is our opponent, and his re-establishment is the only way to get out of the difficulty. But will Juarez grant us the conditions we want? We are not sure, but it is certain he will purchase our evacuation on the best terms. Another question is, will Juarez's terms be enforced by Mexico? We fear not. But as it would be the same with any other ruler, better trust him.

What he can grant is the lives of our countrymen, and that is of the most importance at present. The Mexican expedition will be a serious loss in money, and it will be a check to our progressive policy, but it cannot be prevented. But we must not shock the world with the sad sight of our murdered countrymen, when it is known the expedition was got up to protect them. That would be worse than all, and our last duty now is to prevent it.

We have conquered the Mexicans wherever we have met them, and all we have to keep us there is our regard for Maximilian. Let him abdicate and restore us to our liberty, and all that will remain for us to do will be to secure the safety of our countrymen.

But the most important, what is absolutely necessary, is a prompt and energetic decision to put an end to the crisis instead of prolonging it.

CLEMENT DUVERNOIS.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

THE MEXICAN EMPIRE.

The following telegram from the emperor Maximilian was handed to the Patrie yesterday by the Mexican legation:

[Valentia, October 9, 1 o'clock a. m.]

CHAPULTEPEC, *September* 27.

To General ALMONTE, *Paris:*

You will inform the legations that excellent spirits prevail among all classes. The cabinet is formed at last. We are on the best terms with our allies. The railway is open to Apizaco.

MAXIMILIAN.

[Enclosure No. 3.—From the Standard of October 10, 1866.]

THE MEXICAN DEBT.

October has come and the holders of Mexican bonds are asking if their arrearages are to be paid.

The empress Charlotte's late visit to Paris; the interviews of that young, intelligent and courageous sovereign, evidently on a secret mission; the last exaggerated accounts from Mexico, from United States correspondents, without doubt, have excited all sorts of suspicions.

These questions are put:

Is the French government responsible for the principal and interest of the Mexican bonds? What is the extent and character of that responsibility? We have already said what we think of the duties of France towards Mexico; we will now examine its financial responsibility for the loans negotiated by the State.

In the first place, we must consider the origin of these loans, the part our government took in their issue, and the use made of the sums realized.

As regards the use of the funds, we will borrow from an article of A. Cochut in the Temps, which is known not to favor the Mexican expedition. Maximilian accepted the empire by the treaty of Miramar. In one of its clauses it says: France shall be paid the expenses of the expedition, for all private claims, and the war shall be carried on by the forces of the new empire with those of the allies.

By virtue of that clause the Mexican government negotiated a loan of 16,762,000 francs, in six per cents., at 63 francs, in 1864; 6,600,000 of this went into the treasury for indemnities. The rest was raised in London and Paris, and amounted to 102,000,000.

In 1865 there was a second loan, 500,000 bonds at 340 francs, giving a total of 170,000,000, both loans yielding 272,000,000; expenses to be deducted, 26,000,000, leaving a net profit of 246,000,000.

The sum was used in this way: For reimbursing the principal in fifty years, 34,000,000 francs; interest, premium, &c., 54,000,000 francs; the old Mexican debt paid in London, 22,000,000 francs; to the government, for war expenses, &c., 102,000,000; making the entire sum realized on both the loans, 212,000,000 francs. Of this Mexico got only 34 millions, with the 22 millions paid to London.

Thus France made one hundred and two millions out of the Mexican loan.

The 6,600,000 in the treasury of the '64 loan were exchanged, in 1865, for 174,000 bonds of the second loan, and 60,000 of them were recently sold. This seems to be assuming a responsibility for the loan.

According to Cochut, then, there are yet 114,000 bonds in the treasury unsold; 47,000 are reserved to pay French claims, leaving 83,000 to the credit of the Mexican commission. 756,000 bonds, making the sum of 192,000,000, have been put into the French treasury by individuals, to pay the expenses of the expedition. It seems to us the French government ought to be responsible for the people's money used by it for the Mexican expedition.

Now, if the Mexican empire fails, the French creditors lose, and the government ought to pay them. We do not hesitate to say, then, that we are in justice bound for the Mexican bonds to French creditors. If Mexico cannot pay, France must; that is the short of it.

Let us look into the Moniteurs of the 11th and 12th April, 1865. Here we find the report of Mr. Costa encouraging the new monarchy, and the minister of state repeats it to the public; but he takes care to add: "It is not a question of responsibility for the Mexican loan." It is plain the French government is not legally responsible for the loan. But the bond-holders reason after this fashion:

The government authorized the loan, and employed its officers to negotiate it; it formed a Mexican finance commission to act for its interests; a minister of finance was sent to the emperor Maximilian; the useless bonds of the first loan were exchanged for good ones; it paid the troops in Mexico with our money; old Mexican debts were paid in London with our money; for these reasons the French government is responsible for the Mexican loans.

We will speak plainly.

We cannot deny that Mr. Costa's report, the support of the plan before the legislature, the authorization of the government, the Mexican commission, had a certain influence on the sale of the bonds; but the twelve per cent. interest and the prizes had a greater. The government ought not and will not deny its

responsibility in this affair; but to charge the French people with the entire burden of those loans would be too much.

The fact is this:

France favored the issue of the loans, hoping to establish a new nation as the result of its expedition. It used a large portion of the money raised to pay the expenses of the expedition and put down Juarez. It took part in the loan, and is certainly liable as far as the advantages it derived from it.

If the bond-holders have not the law on their side, at least they can rely upon the honesty and justice of France in all her transactions.

A. DE FEULGOEL.

[Enclosure No. 4.—From the Opinion Nationale, Paris, October 11, 1866.]

THE END OF THE MEXICAN BUSINESS.

Of all affairs occupying the public at present we may truly say that none hang so heavily on the mind as the prospective and much desired end of the Mexican expedition.

We do not intend to go over an affair we have so often discussed, but we have a fact to state: our flag is about to quit the shores of Mexico. Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys, in his despatch of the 6th of April last, closing his long correspondence with the United States, used these formal words:

"The Emperor has decided that the French troops shall quit Mexico in three detachments. The first is to leave in November, 1866; the second, in March, 1867; and the third, in November of that same year. *You will please inform the Secretary of State officially of that decision.*"

If this is not exactly a formal promise to the government of the United States, it is at least an official notice of a disposition to accede to the wishes of that government, and puts an end to a long correspondence on the important subject. We are assured that the evacuation will begin next month. But rumor says, since that despatch, the French government is convinced that withdrawing the army in parcels will leave the rest unprotected, and there is hope that the whole army will return in November.

What will take place in Mexico after the army leaves? If Maximilian is as firmly fixed as he says, he will have to depend entirely on "the good disposition that everywhere prevails," and go on with his hard work of founding an empire.

If, on the other hand, his government cannot get on without our aid, he will return to Europe with our army. At all events, he has played his part in Mexico; our fear of a war with the United States is over, and we shall spend no more money for Mexico. We will then attend to our own business at home, and watch affairs in Europe. That will be quite enough to keep us busy, and our people's minds will be relieved from a great weight.

But the relief would be greater if the government would say if it intends to secure two points of exceeding interest to Frenchmen, viz., will it protect our countrymen in Mexico, and will it pay the Mexican loan debts? We don't know how we can protect our friends in Mexico after our army has left. That depends on circumstances; but we hope the government will do its best to shield them amidst the anarchy that will prevail when our troops are gone.

As to indemnification to the bond-holders, that is easy. It is generally believed the government will pay them. Most of the loan went into the treasury, and of course the government will repay what it took from the people. We cannot say for certain what the government will do; but it must do something, and that promptly. *Quod facis, fac citius!* must be the motto, for two

reasons; one is, all delay in financial matters causes loss. If there is delay, the purchasers at a low rate will be gainers; the other is, to bury the Mexican expedition as soon as possible in oblivion, and have its funeral preached to calm the world.

AD. GUEROULT.

[Enclosure No. 5.—From La Liberté, Paris, October 12, 1866.]

FRENCH INTERESTS.

To questions put by La Liberté, the Pays makes this reply on Mexican affairs:

"We answer the questions in La Liberté after this fashion: The mental condition of the empress Charlotte is unfortunately very serious. This blow, adding to Maximilian's other troubles, will most likely cause him to relinquish his hard task. We do not want the public to be deceived by the despatch we published yesterday. The French government is deeply interested in Maximilian's return from Mexico, and General Castelnau is the bearer of definite instructions, though we cannot say precisely what they are. But one thing is certain, *Napoleon will never consent, at any price, to give up Mexico without securing French interests, let it cost what it will.*

"PAUL DE CASSAGNAC."

Such is the question, and now we will give the answer. The Pays agree with us that Maximilian must abdicate; so we tell the Patrie the empire is done, according to the Pays's candid confession. But how are we to protect our countrymen when Maximilian quits? That is what the Pays cannot tell us. It says the government will not give up Mexico without giving the most complete guarantee to French interests. How is the government to do that? we ask our honorable colleague. We see no other issue than that proposed in the treaty of Soledad, three years ago. Are the French interests the Pays alludes to in France or Mexico? If they are in France, why prolong the Mexican expedition? Nothing has been gained by it yet. We went to war for a few millions, and we have spent two hundred and fifty millions. First, the French claims, including Jecker's, amounted to a few millions; now, they amount to many millions. At first, Frenchmen were treated as well as any other foreigners in Mexico, now we don't know but they may be murdered to-morrow. That is the balance sheet! After making the mistake of trying to found an empire, now it is down, let us resume our liberty of action.

Must we be responsible for a new government that can be no better than the first? Must we risk a war with the United States by staying in Mexico? That is what the Pays means by saying the Emperor will secure French interests at all risks! It wants a new sacrifice of men and money; it wants a war with the United States.

We do not regard French interests in that light. It was not to the interest of France to begin the Mexican expedition; and when commenced, it was France's interest to stop at Soledad with England and Spain. When France was left alone, it was her interest to treat with the Mexican government after the capture of Puebla and the occupation of the city of Mexico. After founding a government and assuming a guardianship of it, France ought to have lent it money at six per cent., and not have cheated it out of many millions.

We have said this before, and not in passion or with a party spirit. Now we say there are but two roads to pursue in Mexican affairs:

If we try to make Mexico a French province, we shall have war with the

United States; if we withdraw with Maximilian and treat with Juarez, we shall have peace. As we have always been victorious in Mexico, we can retire with honor, which is of great importance. There remains then but one political mistake to correct, one debt to liquidate. "A money wound is not mortal," says the proverb. That is true, if it be properly dressed and not allowed to mortify.

CLEMENT DUVERNOIS.

THE RIGHTS OF JUAREZ.

All the papers favoring French intervention in Mexico make much noise about the differences between Juarez and Ortega, and with strange inconsistency grant rights to the latter which they refuse to the former.

For the benefit of history we will correct these mistakes. According to the constitution of the Mexican republic, in case of the President's death, the president of the supreme court succeeds to power. Now, in 1862, Ortega was president of that court, while Juarez was President of the republic. During that year Ortega was made chief of the eastern division of the army, and marched to defend Puebla. While besieged in that city, congress, mindful of the risks he ran there, deposed him from chief justice and put a lawyer named Ruiz in his place.

When Juarez's time expired in 1865, extraordinary circumstances induced a large number of Mexicans to re-elect Juarez. Ruiz protested against that election. Ortega's protest was null and void, for he was no longer president of the supreme court, and had no right to the presidency of the republic. The government at Washington is right; for as long as it has a minister accredited near Juarez, it will not notice the pretensions and protests of Ortega.

H. PESSARD.

[Enclosure No. 6.—From Le Siècle, Paris, October 12, 1866.]

LET US FINISH THE MEXICAN BUSINESS.

All the papers this morning are commenting upon the telegram sent by the emperor Maximilian to General Almonte, his representative in Paris. It seems all is going on well; all the people are well disposed; the cabinet is formed; and the best understanding prevails between Mexico and its allies. There is no doubt about this, for the information comes from the emperor himself. Since things are going on so well there, why does not the French government take advantage of circumstances, put an end to the unlucky expedition, and withdraw our army? What prevents it from giving this satisfaction to public opinion? Unfortunately the Moniteur keeps a sullen silence on this serious subject. Nobody knows what will be done, and guessers have full play. Foreign papers are filled with Paris correspondence, purporting to be reliable, giving all sorts of plans and projects and impossible combinations, which the cunning use to the great damage of the credulous.

We would like to know the intentions of the French government, not only in regard to our army in Mexico, but in regard to the Mexican debt, which is daily becoming more grievous to the bondholders. The obligations are depreciating, to the great injury of the original purchasers, and the silence of the government increases the trouble. Why not enlighten us on the subject?

This is the propitious moment. Maximilian says he has no more need of us, since harmony prevails among all classes of the population. Let the govern-

ment then agree with Maximilian upon a guarantee of French interests, and bring our army back as soon as possible, as it will have to be done sooner or later.

The European horizon is gloomy: peace has hardly been signed between Prussia and Austria, when we hear rumors of another war. Prussian papers openly proclaim the warlike projects of the Berlin cabinet. To humble and degrade Austria, destroy her if necessary; to bring Paris to her senses; to impose laws upon the world; nothing seems impossible to King William.

Who knows how far the infatuation of a first triumph may carry him? Only a few days ago Prussia tried to prevent Austria from appointing a certain minister. Prussia might go further, and France might be called upon to stop her in her fits of audacity and folly. But to do this France will want all her forces now scattered over the world. France is strong, but she must let the world know it for once. To do this, we must recall all our foreign expeditions. The convention of the 25th of September recalls our army from Rome; and now we must bring back our troops from Mexico. We should not have gone to that distant country, and our presence is certainly not needed there now. Why delay? If there are reasons for continuing the occupation, let them be known. But there are none. All the interests we have to defend now are the interests of the Mexican bondholders. Let the government think of that and decide. There is no time to be lost, for we are threatened from two quarters. The present condition of Europe requires all our strength at home, and our finances are damaged by the depreciation of the Mexican obligations. We must put an end to this. A decision is urgent, for many reasons, and Maximilian's despatch makes it easy. France has other and better business than weaning monarchies; she has something more manly to do. The government was mistaken when it thought it could found a monarchy in Mexico. If Maximilian's despatch is true, the empire is fixed. France has done her work; let her be gone. If Maximilian is mistaken, if France is deceived, if the Mexican baby empire is not viable, let us confess our error and retire, since we have done all we could; we have reached the extreme limit of our sacrifices in men and money. Whatever process of reasoning be adopted, the conclusion must be the same.

Let us finish this Mexican business!

[Enclosure No. 7.—From the Opinion Nationale.]

PARIS, *October* 13, 1866.

We read in the Pays as follows:

"The mental condition of the empress Charlotte is unfortunately very serious. The unexpected attack has so much increased the difficulties of the situation, that it is doubtful if the emperor Maximilian will continue his thankless task. We do not want the public to be deceived by the despatch we published yesterday. The French government is deeply interested in Maximilian's return from Mexico, and General Castelnau is the bearer of definite instructions, though we cannot say precisely what they are. But one thing is certain—Napoleon will never consent, at any price, to give up Mexico without securing French interests.

"PAUL DE CASSAGNAC."

These lines give a special character to the paper publishing them, and to which we must call attention. The Pays, after publishing the despatch, says we must not be deceived by it, and assures us the French government is much interested in Maximilian's return; hence we conclude the empire, founded and maintained by our soldiers, is lost.

We are much pleased with this declaration of the Pays, if it be true, that the

French government has decided to give up an enterprise that has cost us so much blood and money, and which should never have been undertaken. Our intervention has lasted long enough. We have injured our finances and unfurled our flag in distant regions, risking a war with the United States, already too long, while events at our very doors called our strict attention. France is certainly opulent and powerful; but while so many changes are taking place in Europe, it is her duty to attend to interests at home.

The regeneration of Mexico, by our arms, or by the efforts of Maximilian, is an impossibility, and we should have known it on the day that Spain and England gave up the expedition to us. It is never too late to do good; and the day that our soldiers quit that unlucky land will be a thrice happy day, even if it be the dying day of the Mexican empire.

When the Pays says that the Emperor Napoleon will not give up Mexico "till our interests are assured," we readily believe it; but it is easier to write this than to effect it. What does the Pays mean? What will the Emperor do? If the Pays knew, it should have told us. It seems to us that extreme means have already been used by the Emperor, for many years, by an armed and expensive occupation of a vast country without arresting the civil war for a single day or gaining anything but an increase of a debt against a government that is already insolvent.

ARTHUR ARNOULD.

No. 58.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 13, 1866.

The Secretary of State has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a communication from the minister of Mexico of the 5th instant, containing several articles from the Paris press relative to Mexican affairs.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 59.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *November* 9, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: Believing you would like to see the detailed and authentic accounts of the infirmity that afflicts Madam Charlotte Leopoldine, ex-archduchess of Austria, I send you a copy of a communication from Don Joaquin Velazquez de Leon, called minister of Maximilian in Rome, directed to his master from that city on the 18th of October last, informing him of all that had happened up to that time.

I may as well say the original of the communication is in my possession.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Communication of Velasquez de Leon, minister at Rome, to Maximilian, in Mexico.

SIRE: I proceed to inform your majesty of the particulars of the unfortunate and unexpected events of the last few days.

We could imagine many calamities to Mexico, but it certainly never entered our minds, when we were admiring the courage and heroic valor of her majesty the empress at leaving your majesty, enduring the dangers and fatigues of the bad roads to Vera Cruz, in the rainy season, in the midst of yellow fever; crossing the ocean and coming as a great negotiatrix, to demand rights for Mexico and the execution of treaties, that she would be so ungraciously received in Paris as to affect her majesty's mind so seriously.

The desperate condition of Mexico, a country so much beloved by her majesty, undoubtedly had much influence in the mental excitement, but she showed some symptoms of derangement at Puebla and Acultzingo. The effects of her reception in Paris were so strong that she had to stop in Botzen, on the way to Rome, where she imagined she saw Paulino Lamadrid in disguise, playing an organ, and fancied herself surrounded by Napoleon's spies and traitors, who had poisoned her. On account of the unexpected delay at Botzen I did not meet her majesty at Orti, whither I had gone with Bishop Ramirez to receive her, because Señor Degollado was sick. A committee from the pontifical government also went to meet her.

Telegraphic despatches on the way informed me that her majesty would arrive at Ancona, and we went there, where we heard she had stopped at Botzen. While there we visited the holy temple of Loretto.

Her majesty the empress arrived on the 25th, and we left by an express train for Rome, where we arrived at 11 o'clock at night. At the first water station her majesty sent for me to come to her car, where she was alone with Madame del Barrio, her lady of honor, and asked me the state of affairs in Rome. Our conference lasted over two hours. Her majesty concluded by saying I was as well informed on affairs in Mexico as in Rome, and promised to act by my directions here. Her reasoning was very sensible and logical, and I did not once suspect that mental agitation that subsequently developed itself.

On the 26th her majesty rested in Rome, and the next day we called to see his Holiness. That same day her majesty condescended to send her grand chamberlain, Count Del Valle, to invite me to her table, and the same honor was extended to the committee and to his grace's chaplain, so we were all Mexicans at her majesty's table. In the morning, just as we were ready to start to the Vatican, her majesty saw from the Hotel de Roma, where she was stopping, that the cockade of her coachman's hat was not in order, and she reprimanded him with much excitement, and delayed us till past the hour fixed for our reception.

This interview was solitary, as your majesty knows is the custom with sovereigns, and lasted one hour and eighteen minutes; then her majesty presented her suit to kiss the foot and hand of the holy father, and we retired till dinner was served, when her majesty ordered Mr. Castillo to be seated at her right, according to the court manual. I told her you said my place was there, next to the president of the council, as the oldest minister, though I had no portfolio, but I obeyed her orders.

Her majesty was angry at table, and took neither sherbet nor coffee till we had all been helped. She fancied the coffee pot had a hole in it, and had it taken away from the table.

On the 28th there were several incidents that seemed strange to the uninitiated. will mention one of them. I was sick in bed that day; her majesty sent for

me three or four times, and finally ordered me to be brought before her in my bed. As that could not be done, she sent to see what was the matter with me. It seems she thought I had been poisoned the day before at her table.

After receiving the diplomatic corps and other authorities, her majesty the empress went to visit the churches and monuments of Rome, in company with Commander Datti, his Holiness's private chamberlain of the sword and cloak, who was appointed to wait on her on that occasion.

At 8 o'clock in the morning, on the 1st instant, her majesty the empress went out and I waited for her till 3. At 5½ I got a note from Cardinal Antonelli, telling me to come to the Vatican immediately. I was at the hotel with Castillo, and having no carriage ready I took the one our consul came in. He had been waiting since 11 o'clock in the morning to see her majesty.

I met Cardinal Antonelli much afflicted, because her majesty the empress said she would not return to the hotel until the Count Del Valle, her lady of the wardrobe, and Dr. Benslaveck, who she said had poisoned her, had left the house.

The cardinal perceiving her excitement without apparent cause, asked permission to write to me. "Yes," she said, "you may write to Velasquez, but I have no confidence in anybody but his Holiness."

We contrived that those persons should leave the hotel, without scandal, and I then went to the Vatican and informed her majesty they had left according to her orders. She partook of the Pope's dinner, and wanted to stay in the Vatican all night for fear of the persons mentioned, but I persuaded her to return to the hotel by 7 p. m. On entering her room, she perceived the keys were not in the door. In fact, the doctor had taken them away secretly, as he afterwards acknowledged, to lock her majesty in her chamber, in case of a violent attack. Missing the keys, she went straight back to the Vatican, and locked herself and Madam Del Barrio in a room under the Pope's, where she passed the night. The next day she amused herself in the Vatican gallery till noon. and then returned to the hotel and examined to see if the suspected persons were there. They had returned and had taken other rooms so as to be near her majesty, as they were responsible for her august person, her health, and her jewels.

His Holiness sent his physician and the doctor of the San Giacomo hospital to consult her majesty's physician, and they pronounced her disease monomania.

While her majesty was in the Vatican on the 1st, Antonelli sent for the Count of Flanders and Count Bombelles, at her majesty's instance and with the Pope's consent. Luckily they were at Miramar, where they had gone by permission to visit their Austrian relatives. Castillo and I sent a telegram to our minister in Belgium to hurry the Count of Flanders, in case he was there, and we sent your majesty word by the Atlantic cable the same day.

When she was not on the terrible idea of poison, she conversed rationally, and nobody suspected her mental alienation. She never spoke to me of poison, for I did not see her in the Vatican, and since then she never mentioned the subject, but always received me in a friendly manner.

The Count of Flanders and Count Bombelles arrived at 8 the next night, and resolved to take her majesty to Miramar next day. On the morning of the 8th she sent for Castillo to sign several documents which she gave him, discharging all her suit, and even Mr. Castillo himself, but of course he did not sign them. The physicians had agreed upon the necessity of her majesty's leaving Rome immediately, on account of the effect of the sirocco on her nerves, and to isolate the august invalid.

On the 7th her majesty the empress left by a special train for Ancona, with the Count of Flanders, all her suit remaining in Rome. A steamer was ready at Ancona, and on the morning of the 10th she arrived at Miramar.

The Count of Flanders, thinking solitude would be best for her majesty the empress, did not permit her to take leave of any one.

In respect to family decisions, and for the good of her majesty, as well as to avoid responsibility, I requested Count Bombelles to give me a written statement of the physician's orders to the Count of Flanders, the relation of our sovereign, who had naturally taken charge of her in her present state of health. He gave me the document, and by reason of it her majesty's extraordinary committee was not present; but as good Mexicans, Noriega and I went to the station to bid adieu to our unfortunate sovereign, who was now suffering for her love and devotion to Mexico, to offer her the most important service under the trying circumstances.

She spoke to me with her usual amiability, and asked why my companions were not present. They remained away by reason of the doctor's orders, a written copy of which I send you. I told her majesty they were indisposed. She asked if it was on account of the rain, for it was raining at the time. The Count of Flanders then shook my hand, offered his arm to the empress and entered the cars with the Belgian minister and his lady, the Austrian chargé and the Austrian and Belgian secretaries. The Belgian minister, Mr. Noriega, the secretaries and I followed, according to etiquette, from due respect and consideration to my sovereigns.

I have lately heard that the idea of poison originated in Paris. While visiting the Tuileries, lemonade was given to her majesty and her lady, Madam del Barrio, and when she got back to the Grand Hotel she told Kichachirrach that they had poisoned her. On the 11th, her majesty's grand chamberlain left for Trieste, and Castillo started on the 12th. Before leaving he got a telegram from the legation in Paris enclosing your majesty's, giving the good understanding that reigned everywhere in Mexico, among all classes, the complete organization of the ministry, &c. As soon as I received the despatch from Mr. Castillo, I sent it to the *Osservatore Romano* for publication that day; but as it appeared with the date of the 2d of September, instead of the 29th, the true date of the telegram, I had it republished the next day with the date corrected.

Señor Barrio and his lady remain here to rest, but expect to start for Trieste soon, so as to be near Miramar when your majesty's orders arrive.

Papers here publish extracts from those of the United States reporting that Santa Anna had raised a loan of three millions of dollars, purchased six steamers, and sent an expedition of two thousand men to the coast of Mexico.

I received your majesty's communication of the 5th from Cuernavaca, and I see in the Diario del Gobierno of the 4th the appointment of Castillo as minister to Rome. He thinks it a temporary appointment, because, as he is not acquainted with affairs here, the negotiations of the concordat would be delayed, or would fail.

We have not received the letters recalling the committee, and it is unpleasant for me, who have always deserved the confidence of your majesty and the government, to be brought down to a level with the rest and be compelled to quit Rome just at a time I was about asking leave to travel next summer with my family for my health, when I could write to your majesty from various places; and at the same time that Ramirez and Degollado were urgent to get back to Mexico, we see ourselves in opposite positions; they are to travel and I am to go back to Mexico immediately. I suspect this is a mistake of your majesty's secretary, in writing the letters, though I have no idea of disobeying your majesty's orders. I am sorry to learn at this moment that her majesty the empress even suspects the Count of Flanders, and will not see him. I regret to send you such sorrowful news, but it is my determination to let your majesty know everything, as that is true frankness and loyalty, and the true way to serve you. I hear that the consul in Jerusalem and the Franciscan fathers there are suffering for want of means.

Wishing your majesty all consolation, and now more than ever the special protection of Providence, I remain your majesty's most obedient servant,

JOAQUIN VELASQUEZ DE LEON.

His majesty the EMPEROR, *Mexico.*

WASHINGTON, *November* 9, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNACIO MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 60.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 15, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 9th instant, containing a copy of a communication addressed to the Prince Maximilian by Don Joaquin Velasquez de Leon, with regard to the disease affecting the princess Charlotte Leopoldine, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 61.

Señor Romero to Mr. F. W. Seward.

[Translation.]

Unofficial.] WASHINGTON, *November* 16, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: Fulfilling the offer I made you some time since, to obtain authentic intelligence from my government about the reported shooting of a son of the Marquis de Montholon, I wrote at once for that purpose to Mr. Lerdo de Tejada, who has replied to me, contradicting that rumor, as you will see in the letter (of which I send you a copy with this note) which that gentleman sent me on the subject under date of 20th of October last.

I remain your very respectful and obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Mr. FREDERICK W. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Translation.]

No. 478.] DEP'T OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND OF GOVERNMENT,
Chihuahua, October 20, 1866.

I have received your notes Nos. 625 and 630, of dates 20th and 21st of September last, relative to the information which was confidentially asked from you by the Hon. Frederick W. Seward, acting Secretary of State, about the news published there of the death of a Marquis de Montholon, who was supposed to be son of the Marquis de Montholon, minister of France near the government of the United States.

Such news was published in a newspaper at St. Louis, by inserting a letter which was said to have been received from a point on the frontier, in which assurance was given that the Marquis de Montholon had been taken in the State of Durango and executed by his captors.

I can assure you that the fact so related is not true. In the State of Durango no one has been captured or executed who could be Marquis de Montholon, or other person who could bear that name.

I suppose that the origin of that inaccurate report must have been a rumor set afloat in March or April of this year. Then it was said, that in one of the many encounters had near Mazatlan, in the State of Sinaloa, a son of the Marquis de Montholon died. A little time afterward it was cleared up, that the French commander or officer killed was not a son of Monsieur Montholon, nor bore that appellative; and that the mistake originated in his having an appellative with some termination similar to it, and that he belonged to some family well known and respected. Although I have not now before me the notices relating to the person who died at that time, I can assure you that I saw them at the time, and in the manner I have related.

Therefore I believe I can assure you that the notice published in the St. Louis newspaper, neither in the mode of publication nor otherwise, is in any respect accurate.

I assure you of my respectful consideration.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

C. MATIAS ROMERO,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Mexican Republic to the United States of America, Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, *November* 16, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNACIO MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 62.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 20, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 16th instant, containing a copy of a note from Mr. Lerdo de Tejada, denying the truth of the rumor regarding the shooting of the son of the Marquis de Montholon, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 63.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *November* 20, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to send to you for your information copy of a letter which I received to-day from Vera Cruz, dated 1st of this month, and

written by a trustworthy person, containing various important notices of the causes which have hindered the embarcation of Maximilian at that port.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

[Translation.]

VERA CRUZ, *November* 1, 1866.

Maximilian has not embarked, nor will he probably embark for some days. The French hinder his departure until he signs an act of abdication.

An indiscretion of the commander of the Dandolo frustrated the embarcation of Maximilian, who was going off; and—you may wonder—without Bazaine suspecting it! This seems extraordinary, but is the case, notwithstanding.

From his leaving Mexico the rumor ran that the Austrian was going off; but this did not go beyond rumor, and as, any way, the ministers were the first in giving assurance that the journey to Orizava was like the former one to Cuernavaca, and nothing on the part of Maximilian indicated the project of flight; thus you have the reason why in Mexico they did not give greater credit to the public rumor, and Bazaine slept at ease.

But the Austrian had his plan ready, and would have gone off with his following, but for the indiscretion of the commander of the Dandolo, as I have already said. This captain received a despatch from Maximilian at half past twelve at night, before last, warning him to have his frigate ready by five o'clock in the afternoon of the following day, at which time he would be here and embark at once.

As soon as it dawned the Austrian captain ran to the house of the French commander, Monsieur Peyran, and in confidence communicated the message he had received, taking leave of him, and asking his orders for Trieste.

Mr. Peyran hastened to the telegraph and communicated the news to Bazaine, who knew nothing of a journey so close at hand; who immediately cut off all telegraphic communication from the public, and began to give orders to the French authorities at Orizava, Cordova, and Vera Cruz, and addressed Maximilian himself, informing him that he had knowledge of his projects of flight, and making him understand that if he did not abdicate in form he would not let him embark.

All this is true; it has happened, and I know it from a person very closely connected and in the confidence of Commander Peyran. Maximilian sought to deceive the French, and owing to the indiscretion of the commander of the Dandolo has been caught in his own net.

The basis of the French to ground upon and justify his retirement, is abdication. Maximilian abdicating, they declare their engagements at an end; but Maximilian going off without abdicating or renouncing the throne, and declaring, as they say was his intention, all his "griefs against the French," these rest in a very bad position; immense ridicule would have fallen on them, from all of which they have escaped. Why should you not be assured that this weakness of spirit of the Austrian will make him go through everything; and he will sign, not one, but twenty abdications. His voyage has been postponed only a few days. In whatever way it may be, this ridiculous imperial farce must end ridiculously.

I have been assured that from this day the French are masters of the revenues from this custom-house; they using, and none but they, the whole of the duties collected.

The political prefecture is at an end, and from this day the French superior in command is also political prefect; or, better said, from this day forth there is none other than military administration.

WASHINGTON, *November* 20, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 64.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 29, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 20th instant, containing a copy of a letter addressed to you from Vera Cruz, with regard to the causes which are said to have prevented the embarcation of the Prince Maximilian at that port, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 65.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *November* 22, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I enclose you for your information the copy of a communication from Don Martin de Castillo, the so-called minister of foreign affairs and marine of Maximilian, written to him from Turin, the 6th instant, giving the views of public opinion in Europe in regard to his permanency in Mexico, and how much this is desired, "as much for the national and commercial interests of the moment, as for political equilibrium in the New World, so as to confine a certain nation to limits, in order to prevent its gigantic development in future."

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Letter from Señor Castillo in Turin to Maximilian in Mexico.

TURIN, *November* 6, 1866.

SIRE: I present your majesty my most respectful thanks for the royal letters of the 20th September, with which you have deigned to honor me, and inform you that the health of my august sovereign is visibly improving, which is gratifying to us, and gives us hopes of her speedy recovery. The information must have caused your majesty some anxiety. May the Lord's will be done.

It gave much pleasure to read your majesty's speech at the anniversary of independence, in the paper you deigned to send me, which reached me some weeks ago, and renewed my hopes that your majesty would restore the nationality of the country, now suffering hard trials, in spite of the many obstacles in your way.

I think there is a slight favorable change in the European press, proceeding from the firmness and energy of your majesty in state affairs, and the recent reported triumphs of General Mejia.

Now it is thought the empire has sufficient elements to suppress the revolution, and considering the inclination and decided wish of the people around Matamoras for peace and order, and the spirit of unity that reigns in different classes of society, it is believed the throne can be sustained after the departure of the French troops, which is greatly desired in Europe, as much for national and commercial interests of the moment as for political equilibrium in the New World, so as to confine a certain nation to limits, in order to prevent its gigantic development in future.

Hoping the majority of Mexicans will sustain your majesty's noble efforts, and thus show their nation is not dead, and by their patriotism and energy gain a sympathy they need so much, we all look forward to a change for the better, after the French army leaves, which will give free action to the people, and allow them to recover from a crisis that may prove beneficial, instead of prejudicial.

I will attend faithfully to your orders about Prince Salvador de Iturbide, who, I think, had better continue his studies in England. Don Augustin must have gone to the United States, and I presume the rest of the family have gone too; I will inquire.

Your majesty will excuse me for being brief in this letter, as it is to be sent by unsafe means, and I am afraid it may be intercepted like one of Mr. Eloin's.

Count Del Valle is still in Miramar. General Uraga left Trieste for Paris on the first, and Mr. Barrio and his lady are waiting your instructions in Vienna, as he wrote me on the second. As I cannot return as soon as I expected, I write to my brother to deliver to your secretary some documents that were left on my desk by Mr. Langlais, one of which is a sealed letter to Mr. Escandon, about the sum paid to France by Mexico for the Vera Cruz railway. In my humble opinion that affair ought to be thoroughly investigated, so that it be determined whether that considerable sum is to revert to the government, and Mr. Escandon relieved from its responsibility, or what is to be the result.

I leave to-morrow for Pisa, the mild climate of which is much recommended for the lungs, and it is only a few hours from Rome, *via* Livorno, where I will await your sovereign orders.

I beg your majesty to permit me to present my most respectful homage and gratitude, with which I have the honor to be your majesty's most humble and obedient servant,

M. DE CASTILLO, *Minister ad interim.*

WASHINGTON, *November* 22, 1826.

A true copy:

IGNACIO MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 66.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 29, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 22d instant, containing a copy of a letter of Don Martin de Castillo to the Prince Maximilian, with regard to public opinion in Europe as to the permanency of his position in Mexico.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don M. Romero, *&c.*, *&c.*, *&c.*

No. 67.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

Mexican Legation in the United States of America,
Washington, *December* 14, 1866.

Mr. Secretary: I have the honor to remit, for your information and that of the government of the United States, a copy of a letter I have received from Vera Cruz from a trustworthy person, in which are given some interesting details about the arrival of the Susquehanna at that port and the course which the so-called imperial prefect Don D. Burean took respecting the aids which said steamer needed, and the communication sent to the consul of the United States.

I send also a copy of the printed proclamation published on the 1st instant by the so-called prefect of Vera Cruz, in which he announces the resolution taken by Maximilian not to leave the country, but rather to return from Orizaba to the city of Mexico, to assume anew and indefinitely the pretended authority he has exercised, which indicates an absolute change of position so far, at least, as it had been presented.

I avail of the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. William H. Seward, *&c.*, *&c.*, *&c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.—Translation.]

Vera Cruz, *December* 1, 1866.

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The day before yesterday the American steamer Susquehanna anchored in this port. It blew from the north, and up till yesterday she communicated with the shore.

The prefecture forbid the captain of the port from sending her pratique; but as the command is with the French military authority, the order of the prefect was a nullity, as that authority sent pratique to the Susquehanna to improve her anchorage, which was bad. The pratique brought on return a communication to the American consul, which was taken to the prefecture, but they dared not open it; many shifts were resorted to, perhaps for the purpose of finding out what it contained; after keeping it an hour it was sent to the consul, who, I think, will not rest quiet after the delay suffered by his communication.

[Enclosure No. 2.—Translation.]

Long live the empire! Long live the emperor!

Vera Cruzans: One of the most grateful events for good Mexicans has just occurred to the nation.

His majesty the emperor, who has made so many sacrifices for the welfare

and happiness of our dear country, has given the last proof of the interest he takes in it. When overwhelmed by the natural feelings which were still contending, and still are so in his mind, in consequence of the ill health of his august and noble spouse, our beloved sovereign, he thought for a moment that he ought temporarily to abandon the country to devote himself to fulfilling the sacred duty of offering to his worthy consort the cares she so much needs in the delicate condition in which she is. The emperor sacrifices himself for us, postpones his duties as a man to those which his honor points out to him to be controlling, and in these critical moments, that the country may pass safely through, he solemnly declares that he will continue at the helm, and will contest without remission, until the last drop of his blood be shed in defence of the nation.

Vera Cruzans, let us rejoice, let us give thanks to Providence for having saved the integrity of our territory, and with full outpouring of our hearts, let us hail the day of the resurrection of our nationality, on the eve of disappearing.

Vera Cruz, *December* 1, 1866.

No. 68.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

Department of State,
Washington, December 17, 1866.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 14th instant, containing a copy of a letter which you received from Vera Cruz relative to the proceedings of Mr. Bureau on the arrival of the Susquehanna at that city; also a copy of a proclamation he issued on the first of this month, to the people of Vera Cruz, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don M. Romero, *&c.*, *&c.*, *&c.*

No. 69.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

Washington, *December* 21, 1866.

My Dear Sir: I have the honor to remit to you various articles from the principal daily papers of Paris, published during the late days of November last, in which there is very ably discussed the important question, who is the responsible party, in France, for the ill results which the Mexican adventure has had. The semi-official press treats of throwing the responsibility on the opposition and on public opinion, while the independent journals attribute it to the Emperor Napoleon.

I gladly avail of this opportunity, sir, to repeat that I am, very respectfully your most obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. William H. Seward, *&c.*, *&c.*, *&c.*

[Enclosure No 1.—From La France, Paris, November 24, 1866.—Translation.]

THE MEXICAN EMPIRE.

The expedition to Mexico was inspired by a grand and generous thought, and under the circumstances in the midst of which it was carried out, was a political conception as ably prepared as energetically conducted. That England and Spain should associate themselves, from the outset, with France, must have been because they comprehended that the higher interests of civilization and of justice called upon them to go so far to avenge the wrongs done to their subjects. The three allied powers well knew that there was something else to be done in Central America besides calling for an ephemeral reparation. They wanted to obtain, through the establishment of a strong regular government, essential guarantees against the revolutionary powers which, through all time, have been in conflict in those countries, and against the cupidity, hidden or avowed, which, by invasion of South America, might destroy the equilibrium of the whole world.

France has been left alone in this work worthy the ambition of a great prince and a great people. Sagacity counselled perhaps to follow the course of the English and Spaniards, and to withdraw upon an appearance of satisfaction, without having secured anything in the present or settled anything in the future; but honor demanded energy, and, as always, when the flag of France is unfurled, honor alone is listened to. At the close of some triumphant military movements, the French army entered Mexico a short time afterwards, and were received as liberators by a population which had long grieved in disorder and anarchy; and the Mexican nation, restored to freedom of thought, solemnly consulted, restored again the empire of Mexico amid the plaudits of Europe. The work of France then found for its accomplishment a mind bold in initiative, strongly imbued with the great ideas of our times, a strong mind, a brave heart, a choice intellect in the Archduke Maximilian of Austria. Impartial posterity will justly appreciate the self-devotion of this prince, who, braving difficulties and dangers, accepted the crown of Mexico and undertook to found, in a policy of order, of peace, and of progress, the future of a country whose past history had been so brilliant. If he has not been able to accomplish the noble self-imposed task, he will at least enjoy the ineffaceable honor of having generously undertaken it. He was, in fact, permitted to believe in his success. The French army protected the Mexican throne, restored by the national vote, and all respectable men, all conservative interests, grouped themselves around Maximilian to aid and sustain him in his task. But at this moment, it must be admitted, an unlooked for movement of opinion showed itself in France. The public mind grew restless under the possible consequences of our intervention in Mexico. The feeling of the country, of which the opposition took hold with much skill, pronounced itself markedly each day more and more for the recall of our troops and the prompt closing up of this distant expedition. It was a regretable error. No serious danger then menaced the expeditionary army, nor the empire of Maximilian. No one would have dared to address to our country a humiliating injunction; and, as long as our flag sheltered the Mexican territory, no foreign power would have dared to intervene. But the public sentiment which arose among us had, beyond the ocean, an influence easily to be foreseen. It encouraged the hopes of all enemies of the Mexican empire, and discouraged the confidence of all its friends. The discontended found, within and without, gatherings on which they had not reckoned; conservatives, disquieted about the future, ceased to act in favor of the imperial government, fearing to commit themselves further, and all the force that sustained the Mexican throne vanished at once. We avow, with a feeling of sadness which we do not seek to dissemble, that this was a fatal solution of this grand experiment; but, at any rate, let us not aggravate

it by regrets or by unjust appreciations. The responsibility for the actual condition must not be placed in the wrong quarter.

The Emperor's government had conceived a grand affair; had pursued its realization with a perseverance worthy of the grandeur of the purpose and an elevation of views worthy of the policy of France.

The army, on its part, had accomplished its mission with its traditional bravery. In Mexico it added new laurels to its crowning glory. It retires not before any conquering enemy, nor any menace. It leaves Mexico because a controlling will prevents it from finishing its work. This will is that of the country, which on all occasions has expressed a wish to put an end to the Mexican expedition. It is that opinion which governs public authorities and the sovereign, and which, according to an august expression, "must always carry the final victory." Such is the truth; and if it be possible to look at it without sadness, it should at least be looked upon without passion. But whatever be the issue of this glorious enterprise of civilization and of national regeneration, we cannot too much honor the generous prince who consecrated his most devoted efforts, and that noble woman—that touching empress Charlotte—whose grief and sorrows have shaken her fine intelligence. These vast misfortunes cast a funeral veil over the close of the Mexican empire, but leave no place for anything but respect and sympathy in all quarters.

J. COHEN.

[Enclosure No. 2.—La Liberté, Paris, November 25, 1866.—Translation.]

THE RESPONSIBILITY.

The art of mixing up questions, and of casting upon others the responsibility for one's own acts, truly, at this time, makes astonishing progress. The journal of France which understands how to bedeck the reader with garlands, and bind with flowers the temples of the victims he is going to sacrifice, attempts to-day to play a scurvy trick on public opinion. He seeks to make it responsible for the ill success of our intervention in Mexico.

To listen to "La France," the government happily conceived and admirably conducted this adventurous enterprise, which would have succeeded if public opinion, interpreted by the journal and deputies of the opposition, had not encouraged the hopes of the enemies of the Mexican empire, and discouraged its friends.

Even to-day public opinion alone must be responsible for the evacuation of Mexico; the opposition must bear the burden of the evils which fall on Maximilian. Was this not public opinion? The government always, to believe "La France" in the matter, would have persevered and carried out the task undertaken.

Here we perceive the tactics, and "La France" scarcely takes the trouble to conceal it. "History," says it, "disengaged from the prejudices and passions of contemporary time, will certainly do justice in the end to the great purpose of which this great enterprise was the medium." Therefore, when history shall be written the check of Maximilian, the ruin of Mexican bondholders, the cordial understanding between the United States and France compromised, so many millions spent, and so many lives sacrificed for the regeneration of Mexico, so many errors committed—all these will revert to those who from the first cried out, with as little success as Cassandra of old: "No interventions, no distant expeditions."

In the name of history, which is invoked, we cannot allow such allegations to pass without protesting against similar allegations. "La France" speaks of public opinion absolutely as does "L'Etendard," and quite as justly. If public opinion is the cause of the present evacuation of Mexico; if the votes of the citi-

zens are sufficiently listened to now, so that after four years of heroic, yet powerless efforts, the field is left open to Juarez, why has this public opinion, so well heard when the heavens were overcast, been so little attended to by the journal "La France," when at the commencement of the embarcation it foresaw the storm and predicted the tempest?

Has the journal "La France," yes or no, approved the expedition? Yes or no has it boasted of the infraction of the convention of "La Soledad?" Has it or not attacked with vigor the journalists and the deputies, who, through forecasting patriotism, maintained that the result of the enterprise would not compensate the risks? Is it not still "La France" which, notwithstanding the affirmations of Mr. Rouher, has done everything to convince the holders of Mexican bonds that they had made a good investment; that the sad recitals of the situation of Mexico were false, and that at all events the government had, in respect of them, come under moral obligations?

And after holding this language for years, "La France" attempts to decline responsibility for events, and throws it altogether on other shoulders. No, a hundred times, no. At the outset we invoked the principle of non-intervention, and we placed our finger on the perils of the enterprise. The campaign commenced; we, accepting the situation made for us, indicated the best measures for consolidating, if the thing were possible, the throne of Maximilian. When this throne was cracked throughout, we asked that the country should not suffer too much from this catastrophe, and in recommending to treat with Juarez we have in all conscience shown the best way to pursue to secure the safety of French interests still connected with Mexico.

During this time what has this journal "La France" done? Exactly the contrary to what we were doing; praising what we blamed, blaming what we praised; putting aside our propositions as utopian, and doing the indignant when in our devotion to the country we spoke of treating with Juarez.

"The responsibility for the present situation," said 'La France' "must not be placed in the wrong quarter."

That is our opinion; let "La France" therefore take it on herself, and not endeavor to make it fall upon public opinion, assuredly very innocent of the mishaps of the emperor Maximilian.

H. PESSARD.

[Enclosure No. 3.—From L'Avenier Nationale, Paris, November 30, 1866.—Translation.]

The Mexican expedition has twice failed of its purpose; it failed at first with the three powers which undertook it in common; then when the French government, refusing to ratify the convention of La Soledad, alone continued the war begun by three, and took under her protection the empire raised on the ruins of the republic. This double check the opposition had not only foreseen, but had announced; however, it maintained reserve, abstaining from reprisals too easy to be made, when it was unexpectedly called forth by the inconceivable accusations of La France. It was not possible to suffer the parts to be thus changed, and we were obliged, in recalling the facts, to cast back the responsibility for this expedition on those on whom it rests entirely. La France calls that denigration, and adds: "Nothing is more sad than this system of denigration in view of the checks on our policy."

What is sad is to see writers who, by their imperturbable approbation of an undertaking which miscarried and brought about such disastrous checks, descend to such controversial expedients, and seek to turn the bearing of opinion. If

they think to embarrass us they are mistaken, and so long as they do not get tired of misstating facts, we shall not weary of reasserting them.

The provocations of La France place us between two difficulties; to stir up, or to smother the discussion; we would avoid the one and the other, but we would, in recalling facts, prevent a deceit upon public opinion, and a change of parts.

At the outset the expedition was concerted between France, England, and Spain. What did those three powers want? To appearance they had one common and avowed object; in reality each a purpose privily entertained, and indeterminate at least as to the means of attaining it.

The common and avowed object was indicated by the very terms of the convention. The three powers had to claim from the Mexican government reparation for numerous and divers wrongs, and observance of engagements contracted and guarantees for the future. They did not bind themselves to acquire any portion of territory, or to seek any special advantage, nor to exercise any peculiar control over the domestic affairs of the republic, nor to make any attempt against the right of the Mexicans to choose the form of their government, and to administer it as they understood it.

On the first arrangement the agreement was easy and might last; vagueness and doubt begun with the second understanding. In fact, to declare that to the Mexicans should be left to make choice of their form of government, was to say that they regarded the government of Juarez as less regular than the future government, such as might be, that which afforded the surest guarantee.

In this second arrangement lay the germ of difficulty of disagreement, each of the three powers being entitled to interpret it differently, according to its opinions or private wishes. Two things are equally incontestable: First, the three powers thought the presence of the allied troops would lead on to a rising of the people, and the subversion of the government; next, it was evidently privately understood that the civil war in the United States should be taken advantage of to found in Mexico a government able to check the expansion of the great republic, suspected of wishing to absorb Mexico and Central America, at least as far the Isthmus of Panama.

England, who only thought of the preponderance of her commercial interests, left to the others, according to her wont, the greater part of the expense and responsibility. Spain, who made pretension to play the leading part, dreamed of making Mexico one of her dependencies, and if the throne should be restored in Mexico, of placing a Bourbon thereon. The French government, if it wished a monarchy, certainly did not want it for a Bourbon, which soon dissipated the views of Spain, and explained the strange part which General Prim made his troops play.

The three governments were alike deceived in their expectations. The inventors of the candidature of the Archduke Maximilian had announced as certain a general *pronunciamiento;* but the country did not stir, and, as General Lorencz acknowledged in his order of the day at Pueblo, the resistance surpassed all anticipations; consequently, the calculations settled upon being found mistaken, it was necessary to think of new combinations, and to change the natural current of the expedition.

Then it was that the opposition accentuated its protests, its notices, and called the government only to follow up "reparation of its wrongs." All was useless. The counsels of wisdom and sound policy were considered as acts of systematic hostility, as a want of patriotism. The majority of the legislative body, by votes, the official journals, royalist and clerical, by their approbation encouraged the government to follow up the expedition alone. Thus encouraged the government went to extremes; our army entered Mexico, the monarchy was re-established, and the Archduke Maximilian mounted the throne of Montezuma. To-day he is on the way to Miramar.

La France pretends that the opposition should glory in re-vindicating a share of responsibility in this great check. Why! a part in the responsibility for an enterprise which it blamed in its first days, of which it pointed out the dangers, announced the result, and against which it has never ceased to protest? You don't speak seriously. If the expedition had succeeded you would have reproached the opposition for its false calculations, its predictions confuted by events; you would have claimed all the glory for yourself. Well, then, keep all the responsibility for the check, for it is not you that it weighs upon exclusively.

A. PEYRAT.

[Enclosure No. 4.—From Le Temps, Paris, November 30, 1866.—Translation.]

La France persists in charging upon our check in Mexico the shortcomings of the country. The enterprise was "grand," and the government had the honor of it; the winding up was "sad," and the fault of this lies on the French people. Power "nobly sacrifices its wishes to the nation from which it emanates;" but those projects were unimpeachable; nothing was wanting to their success but agreement of opinion. "Even now, should our soldiers return from their glorious expedition before the purpose is gained for which the enterprise was planned, it is because public sentiment has spoken out in the chambers and elsewhere in a sense contrary to keeping up our intervention."

Here you have what is well understood. All the annoying anticipations of public opinion have been realized; nevertheless, it is that which is wrong; it is that public opinion which has done all the mischief. The responsibility for the present state of things must not be misplaced. The government of the Emperor had conceived a great thing; it pursued its realization with perseverance worthy of the grandeur of the purpose, and with a loftiness of views worthy of the policy of France.

The army, on its part, had accomplished its mission with its traditional bravery. In Mexico it gathered fresh laurels around the crown of its glory. It has not fallen back before any conquering enemy, nor in presence of any menace; it leaves Mexico because a higher will has uttered the wish that a term should be put to the Mexican expedition.

So the matter admits no doubt; not only is it public sentiment, perceived by the opposition, which, expressed out here for the recall of our troops, has caused "the vanishing at once of all the forces that sustained Maximilian;" but it is opinion, even opinion alone, that invited the withdrawal of our soldiers. This withdrawal is not brought on by the recognition of our powerlessness to found anything in Mexico; even at this hour, by maintaining our intervention, we might achieve a glorious end for the expedition, and would incur no danger. But public opinion has pronounced for the recall of our intervention, and the authority inclines to it; only as opinion has not had in this sense any legitimate reason which draws it out, either from the interior of Mexico, or from the possibility of foreign complications, or any other considerations, it follows that the wish of the country is purely a caprice, and an inexplicable caprice. The French people has shown itself unworthy of understanding and carrying through this great enterprise of civilization. Honor to every one, even Maximilian who flies; but it must be imputed as a regrettable error to the nation this want of courage, this fatal winding up!

Such is the way they reason in a country of universal suffrage, and are astonished to hear us say that such language is an injury to the country. "History

freed from contemporaneous prejudices and passions, will certainly do justice," France says, "to the great aim of which this glorious enterprise was the means." What, then, will history say of the people which refused association with this "grandiose attempt," except that it was a nation cowardly and degenerate? We supplicate La France to advance for us a little the hour of history, and not deprive us any longer of our appreciation of the voluptuous pleasure of admiration, so rare in these days. Let her show us the great aim, admirable yet concealed, for which the expedition to Mexico was to be the means; let us know this unknown plan; let her show it written out in authentic documents; let her produce these official papers, of which history will have need to judge of this mysterious conception; let her, in fine, tell us under what solemn circumstance, through what authorized organ, the government invited the nation to concur in its vast projects by making them known to it; for, if the nation was ignorant of them, how can you reproach it for not having adopted them with enthusiasm? If the recovery of some debts and reparation for some injuries have been the sole causes assigned by our authority for the expedition, is that the reason why public opinion could divine the hidden causes? She has predicted what has happened. In return for all your splendid prophecies, "which," do you say to us, "has been realized?"

There is a dictum to express that which opinion has always felt and always said since the outset of the Mexican affair: "The game is not worth the candle." The expression is vulgar; but who can now say that the expression was not apt and just? The "last victory," you say, must always be carried by opinion. Is that enough? And who does not see that his triumph comes too late when produced, after a manner, at the last moment? Who does not see that it is opinion that should carry things before it at once, and that it is necessary, in order that it be manifest in season, to count upon checks and mistakes, and to meet them all, those popular freedoms, without which it rests unknown and powerless?

But no! rather than draw conclusions from the event, you prefer to say that opinion went astray; the error belongs to it and not to you. Ah! you know well the fortune of Cassandra; but the fable itself has not told us that after the fall of Troy there were still Trojans weak enough to wonder at the wooden horse, and to jeer at the daughter of Priam.

[Enclosure No. 5.—From the Journal des Debats, November 28.]

It would be high time to write dispassionately about the Mexican question now that fate has pronounced, and that it might be considered as almost within the domain of history. But really it is putting the patience of the enlightened portion of the community to a test far above its powers to frame, as has just been done, a regular indictment against the French people, whose faltering, we are told, has upset and disconcerted the grand designs of its government. A little memory is sufficient to enable the public to ascertain that popular opinion is no more answerable for the issue than for the outset of that undertaking, and that, on that question, as on all others, the government was left wholly unfettered. The votes of the chamber are there to prove it. The truth is, that public opinion, warned by that marvellous instinct of self-preservation which communities possess in the same degree as organized beings, felt alarmed at the consequences of the Mexican expedition, at the very time that that expedition was exposing us to a serious risk, which no serious interest justified the country in

incurring. The French public watched at first with more curiosity than apprehension the attempt that was being made to found an empire in Mexico, and to establish an Austrian archduke on the Mexican throne. Without feeling any degree of interest in the regeneration of the Latin, or rather the Indo-Latin, races in that distant region, without feeling the slightest desire to reduce to subjection a new Algeria, at such a distance from our coasts, the French public at first viewed with patience the Mexican expedition, regarding it as a kind of costly and risky experiment, which might possibly turn out well. That which changed the public feeling, which abruptly ended that relative indifference, was the aspect of the United States, relieved of the cares of their civil war, their open hostility toward the Mexican expedition, and their determination to oppose it. There can be no doubt that the sudden apparition of such an adversary would only have acted as a stimulant on public opinion, and roused the national spirit among us, if the French people had really thought that their interests or their honor were involved in the success of the Mexican venture. But the idea of going to war with the United States to solve in our own way the philosophical question of the regeneration of the Latin races, or the equally idle question of the relative advantages of a monarchy over a republic, was not calculated to become popular, and induce France to submit to such a heavy sacrifice of blood. It is from that day that popular opinion, deeply roused, was able to exercise indirectly some influence on the decisions of the government. But let us be just. Even if that influence had not existed, the final resolve of the French government would have been the same, for the simple reason *that it never contemplated founding Maximilian's throne at the cost of a war with the United States.* It is, therefore, insincere to say that it is the nation which restrained the government, which was certainly wise enough to restrain itself. Instead of charging the nation with faltering, when, after all, it has done nothing to recommend and approve a retreat so necessary that it would be carried out even if public opinion were so ill-advised as to disapprove it, why not acknowledge that the Mexican undertaking was founded on two opinions, both of which events have shown to be wrong? The first was that the great majority of the Mexican population would be favorable to the new empire, and that the dissidents could be reduced without any great difficulty; the second—which was far more important as to the future prospects of the undertaking—was that the American Union was hopelessly destroyed, that the South would beat the North, and would form a bulwark for the new empire. These were the conditions on which the success of the empire depended. But, while the first was secondary—as with time, blood, and money, the Mexican dissidents must have been reduced to submission—the second was vital, as the idea of founding an empire at the gates of the resuscitated United States, and at the cost of a war with them, *could never have entered any mortal head.* In fact, fate has now pronounced, and it may be stated that if Maximilian's abdication be only dated yesterday, the real date of his fall goes back to the capture of Atlanta, and Charleston, and to the surrender of Richmond. His fall was even foreshadowed by the two despatches by which England and Russia refused to join the French government to propose a mediation and an armistice between the federals and the confederates. The failure of the Mexican expedition rests, therefore, on two errors of judgment, from which the expedition originated. Illusions were entertained as to the internal state of Mexico, and as to the probable issue of the war in the United States. That it would have been better not to have made these two mistakes all the world agrees; but there is a newspaper which allows itself to be mastered by its zeal to such a degree as to pretend that if the expedition failed it is the country that is responsible for the blunder. It is enough to reply to that paper that it is mistaken, and that no one labors under that mistake but itself.

[Enclosure No. 6.—From La Liberté, November 28, 1866.—Translation.]

A LESSON.

About ten months since La Presse, discussing the Mexican question with La France, the latter journal maintained that the expedition had fully completed its purpose, that purpose never having been to found a monarchy in Mexico, but only to obtain reparation from that government without scruple. La Presse in vain protested. On the approach of the debates in the legislative body, La France thought necessary to give the Mexican enterprise these moderate proportions. At this day, on the contrary, it is La France, taking the opinion sustained by La Presse ten months earlier, declares that the expedition to Mexico was a means, and that the end was very different.

In truth, this controversy, which might have had an interest in the month of February, 1866, has only a historic interest in the month of November, for whatever the purpose it matters little to know, because the purpose failed.

Was it purposed only to protect our countrymen, and to realize the pitiful sums due to us from Mexico? The object has certainly failed, for Mexico, in this month of November, 1866, owes more than she owed us in the month of November, 1861; and as for our countrymen, exclusive of there having died in five years a much greater number by war, connected with yellow fever, than would have died in twenty years of civil discord in Mexico, it is difficult to believe that in the future they will be better protected, more liked, more respected than they were before.

If it were purposed to re-establish in Mexico that clerical party, which, after having disturbed it for more than forty years, went out of power in 1857, and was definitively stricken down in the last months of 1860, the object again failed, for hardly had we reached Mexico, accompanied by the principal leaders of that party, than we were obliged to turn it out rudely from the control of affairs.

Was it intended to found a monarchy in the midst of republican America? The return of Maximilian shows plainly enough how that succeeded. Was it purposed, in fine, to oppose a barrier to the ambition of the United States, and to the expansion of the Anglo-Saxon race in the New World? Was it, in a word, the application, by means which are not our own, of the intercontinental policy, which we object to? The precipitate departure of Mr. Campbell and General Sherman, the alliance more intimate than heretofore between the Mexican United States and the United States, show sufficiently that we have not succeeded.

What, then, remains to us for these five years of efforts and sacrifices? There remains one precious thing—a lesson.

To France the Mexican affair teaches that the policy of intervention is powerless, and the system of permanent armies full of peril. To the government it teaches the sterility of the *juste milieu* system.

The policy of intervention has not anywhere been exercised so actively as in the Hispano-American republics. The minister of European powers accredited to those republics had no other occupation than to plead the wrongs of their countrymen. Often government yields to avoid a conflict. Sometimes it resists, and ends in those military demonstrations which so often occur. But those demonstrations are powerless. This is demonstrated in the history of Mexico for twenty years, and if it be decided to act more energetically, you come to those blind alleys with no outlets which are called the conquest of Algeria and the expedition to Mexico.

The only reasonable thing to do is, therefore, once for all, that our countrymen, in expatriating themselves, act at their own risk and perils; that they accept

in advance the chances, good or bad, of expatriation; that they have, in consequence, no aid to expect from citizens who, not running the chances of the happy accidents of such enterprises, don't expect to suffer the ill consequences; and this declaration should be absolute in the interest of all; in the interest of those who, in self-expatriation, will make for themselves no dangerous illusions; in the interest, above all, of France, who will not risk being drawn by her generosity into enterprises of no result. But that this policy should in earnest be adopted, a declaration is not sufficient; there must be a sanction; there must be disarmament.

To desire that a government should maintain a large army, and to require that it should remain inactive, is to require what is absurd and impracticable. It is to require what is absurd, because if you want a good army, it must be inured to war, and that it may be inured to war it must be that with intervals of five, ten, or fifteen years, which pass between two great European wars, there are lesser wars which keep the army in breath. It is to require what is impracticable, for a government with an army cannot leave it inactive for a thousand reasons which all the world understand very well. There must, therefore, be room for the manœuvring of this military force and an off-drain for its need for action. Under the government of July, there was Algeria and Abd-el-Kader; under the second empire, there is Mexico and Juarez. Frankly, where is the difference? Has Mexico cost more men and more money than Algeria? No, only Mexico borders on the United States, while Algeria borders on Morocco; that is all the difference. Suppose that Algeria bordered on a state as powerful as North America, it would have been abandoned long ago. Suppose Mexico had for neighbor only a state powerless as is Morocco, how many good reasons there would have been for remaining there.

Those journals which wish the maintenance, the extension of armaments—armed peace, in a word—and which cry out bitterly against the expedition to Mexico, the Siècle, the Opinion Nationale, the Temps, who declare themselves partisans of the policy of intervention, and yet blame intervention in Mexico, are simply inconsistent. If the government had not its hands full with Mexico, they would probably have dragged it into Poland. Frankly, what would France have gained thereby, and in what respect is it less glorious to go and protect our countrymen in Mexico, than to go and protect the Poles in Poland. It is less dangerous, that is all. In what regards the policy of intervention, the lesson is therefore complete. It is not the less severe on the *juste milieu*. What were the two radical policies to be adopted toward America? On one side was our policy, that of non intervention; on the other side, the policy set forth in tha letter of 3d July, a policy having for object to found in the Gulf of Mexico a powerful state, becoming the centre of the Spanish republics, and opposing a barrier to the expansion of the Anglo-Saxon race in the New World. Good or bad, our policy was precise; good or bad, the policy of the 3d July had the merit of being a policy, and we do not even say that it would not have been grand, imposing.

One policy having been put aside, what did sound logic counsel? It counselled to follow up with resolution the policy of the 3d July.

From the moment of action in an interest opposed to that of the American Union, the day should not have been waited for when peace, re-established by the capture of Richmond, would permit the cabinet at Washington to call upon us for the evacuation of Mexico. It was logic to recognize the southern confederacy; it was not logical to place the new government we were founding in Mexico in an impossible financial condition, and, in place of authorizing loans which would not have given her more than thirty millions disposables, it was necessary to guarantee a suitable loan. It was sound sense to say resolutely to the country: This is what you have to do; the indefinite aggrandizement of the North American republic appears to be to us a danger as great as the ambi-

tion of Russia. We went to stop Russia at Sebastopol; we go to Mexico to interpose a dike to the American fleet. For this we need many men and much money, for if France is not bound to undertake everything, she is bound to succeed in what she does undertake. The moment is opportune, for the dissensions in America furnish us an excellent opportunity; the object is grand, it only needs the means to be in proportion to the object. The government we may found there must not be in dependence on a French general. We must give it the resources necessary for the organization of an immense country, whose natural resources are considerable, but whose disposable resources are nothing. In this way, would the undertaking have succeeded? It is difficult to say after the affair is over, but we sincerely think it. We believe that if, in 1864, at the moment when Doblado and a great many of the liberal leaders offered to rally round the empire, there had been in Mexico a government independent and furnished with sufficient resources, it could have been sustained How many years it would have lasted we do not know.

What changes it might have undergone, we know not, but in any event it would have been founded, and the object of the expedition would have been achieved. In place of that, we adopted half-way measures. It has been said in the newspapers that Mexico had an organized army, and a well balanced budget. Twenty-five thousand men were sent to Mexico, when fifty thousand were needed to pacify that country; two insufficient loans were allowed to be made, in place of guaranteeing at once in good faith a loan which would have. yielded abundantly at low interest the indispensable amounts. There is what La France has never ceased to praise, for it is the triumph of the policy of between two. When Mr. Jules Favre advised to make a finish of Mexico by giving it up to itself, and when Marshal Forey advised making an end of it by sending out a sufficient army, La France found fault with these two extreme opinions. "Neither re-enforcen or abandon," said that paper; "a little action, and abandon at the end, that is policy." When we said don't lend money to Mexico, and when we said: "Don't authorize indirect loans and inadequate to usurious charges, but lend all that is wanted or don't lend at all; guarantee the loan or don't guarantee it." La France cried out: "Wilful men, be silent, the truth is in the *between two* conditions. You are wrong to be willing not to lend to Mexico anything, and you are wrong to be willing to lend her too much. You know you are wrong not to authorize a loan; you know you are wrong to guarantee one. It should be a small loan and a half-way guarantee." And yet at this day it is La France that boldly puts forward this question: On whom rests the responsibility for the check? The check! It is on you, only on you. It lies not on the army, always victorious in Mexico; it is not on Maximilian, wanting in adequate financial resources; it is not on us, who have never ceased to protest; nor even on the primitive idea of the expedition; it rests on the *between two policy*, which enervated the action of government without stopping it, and which, in place of having an understanding with the opposition to blame the undertaking, only allied itself with the idea of the government to render it powerless, by counselling half-way measures in a business where the choice lay between inaction and action the most resolute. That won't hinder the *juste milieu* from declaring themselves the only political spirits of the age, but will the lesson profit the government or the country. In such case, costly as it may be, we shall not count it too dear.

CLEMENT DUVERNOIS.

[Enclosure No. 7.—From La Liberté, Paris, December 1, 1866.—Translation.]

PUBLIC OPINION.

The journals which counselled the Mexican expedition, and afterwards wished it should continue in place of adhering to the convention of La Soledad, are naturally much embarrassed in view of the results obtained. That which might best happen to us after five years of efforts and sacrifices is to obtain to-day the same benefits, the same guarantees, which were effected for us in 1861, and which then were repelled with disdain. There would still be a difference in favor of the convention of Soledad, because in 1861 we treated directly with the Mexicans, while at this day the United States will mix up in the contract in a manner to establish indisputably their controlling influence over Mexico.

A war undertaken for the purpose of placing a barrier against an invasion of the New World by the republicans of the North will then have had for result definitively the hastening of such invasion.

This is sad beyond doubt, and we understand the journals which counselled the expedition must be annoyed at the responsibility they have incurred; but what is almost laughable is the effort they are making to throw this responsibility on public opinion, which at first favoring the enterprise, afterwards manifested fears which did not permit the government to finish a work the success of which was assured.

La France, who sustained the argument against Le Temps, would be obliging if she would let us know by what signs she recognizes the satisfaction or discontent of public opinion.

If we adhere to the letter of the constitution, public opinion has no lawful interpreter other than the legislative body; but we would like to know what difference there was between the approving votes of 1862, of 1863 and of 1864, and the approving votes of 1865 and 1866. Is it that the white ballots cast into the urns by honorable members should change their significance from one year to another?

Is it that wishing to say in 1862 "We approve your policy," the same ballot would say in 1865 and 1866, "Your policy frightens us?" Upon what might one judge that the ballots had so changed their signification, and that "yes" no longer means "yes?" La France would be still more embarrassed to explain that she is not embarrassed in justifying the advice she has been giving for five years.

The truth is, the lawful expression of opinion is constantly brought out in the same way; there is not a day when an attempt is not made to oppose the continuation of the Mexican expedition. The majority approved in 1862, when Mr. Billault, answering to Jules Favre, declared they could not be content with the treaty of Soledad, but had no thought of establishing an empire in Mexico; the majority has remained unshaken; since our troops have gone through a thousand perils, Mr. Thiers said, with reason, that the only wise thing to do was to treat with Mr. Juarez.

The majority could not longer hesitate when they saw the establishment of the empire of Mexico give contradiction to the assertions of Mr. Billault. The majority has remained compact when a clear-sighted opposition anticipated difficulties between France and the United States. The majority, the lawful organ of opinions, has then fully, confidently, incessantly shared in the responsibility of the enterprise, not merely in its primitive conception and in its general bearings, but also in its various phases.

Thus of these two which compose the chambers, one has been clear-sighted, the other has deceived itself. The constitutional opposition was not blinded for a single day; from the beginning it foresaw the issue, and has every year given

counsels that might soon close the enterprise. In 1862 it voted for the treaty of Soledad. In 1864 it proposed to treat with the Mexican government; it has always combatted the idea of the establishment of a monarchy in Mexico. While it was counted in favor of this establishment on the triumph of the confederates over the federal cause, the left side never ceased to foresee the triumph of the Union; and while illusions were entertained on the sentiments of Mexico and its immediate resources, the left never ceased to dissipate those illusions by stating the facts precisely, and producing the figures. Which of the two constitutional fractions of the chambers has given proof on this occasion of the greatest discernment and of true political skill. Has it been the fraction which voted with Mr. Jules Favre and Mr. Thiers, or the fraction which voted afterwards on the counsels of Mr. Billault and Mr. Rouher? Such is the question as it stands, and such it is well to place it before electoral France. As for me, if entry to the chamber through the gate of official candidature, to go and take my seat on the benches with the majority, I had for five years approved the divers phases of the expedition, I should reason thus:

I thought I did well. I would say I have no reproach of conscience in voting with Mr. Billault and Mr. Rouher. I thought I voted in the interest of the country; but I see well I was mistaken, for I voted in 1862 with Mr. Jules Favre, and in 1865 with Mr. Thiers; I would have spared my constituents many useless sacrifices and the government many a mortification. The conservative interest is therefore not that I always vote according to ministerial speeches; it means that I sometimes vote in accordance with the opposition. Perhaps politicians, who are themselves perfectly at home in Mexican affairs, sometimes give some foresight to the examination of questions of finance and the discussion of domestic questions. I shall this year listen to them with more attention, give them more confidence, and in some cases vote with them.

That is what I would say if I was a member of the majority, and if I was an elector voting for the official candidate I should reason in an analogous manner.

I have voted for the candidate my prefect recommended; being conservative, I thought I acted judiciously. I have been told a liberal chamber will prevent the government from doing great things, and I have been willing to give to the government all its initiative privilege for whatever great things have been done since 1863, and which would have been hindered by the opposition of the chamber. I have sought a good deal in vain; I don't see; I see no great victories, nor in fine does the aggrandizement of Prussia pass for a victory of France, nor great public works, nor exceptional prosperity. On the other hand, there is the expedition to Mexico which has cost the life of many young conscripts, which has cost myself the value of more than two Mexican bonds, to say nothing of public outlays in which I have taken part, and for consolation I see myself on the eve of being called out to drill in the landwehr. If in place of voting for the official candidates we had voted for the liberals, should we have been worse off? I should have saved the amount of my two bonds, I should not be going to drill in the landwehr. But what less would I have in territorial grandeur and material prosperity? What is there, that I do not? In what have I weakened the government? I don't see that, either.

What is the upshot of all this.

The conclusion is that the discussion between La France and Le Temps to find out what responsibility rests on public opinion for the Mexican check is without cause in a country which, having the right of suffrage, is fully self-possessed.

La France is wrong when attempting to attribute to a change of opinion a check to an enterprise which had the constant approval of the legislative body.

Le Temps is alike wrong when it attempts to shift off from the country the responsibility which does rest upon it. It is necessary that an electoral country should well understand that it has not the right to complain Having had the power to stop what was doing, it has become fully responsible from what has

happened by not preventing it. It should not be that of this country, free in its vote, it should be said, "It is the fault of the government." It should be told severely: "It is your own fault, for a government based on universal suffrage, necessarily yields to the will clearly expressed by the country, so that, in place of sending a majority favorable to the foreign policy of the government, you should have sent a majority, equally constitutional, but opposed to the policy of intervention, and the government would have abandoned these projects."

So settled, the Mexican check will appear to the people such as it really is: a moral victory of constitutional opposition to the majority, a victory of prudence over devotedness.

CLEMENT DUVERNOIS.

No. 70.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

WASHINGTON, *January* 9, 1867.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 21st ultimo, containing extracts from some Paris papers relative to Mexican affairs, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 71.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, December 22, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to enclose to you, for the information of the government of the United States, a translation into English of an article published on the 3d instant by the paper called Diario del Imperio, the organ in the city of Mexico of the ex-Archduke of Austria, Don Fernando Maximilian, and of a manifesto from him to the Mexicans, dated on the 1st. In these documents is reiterated the determination of the ex-Archduke to remain in Mexico some time longer, which I communicated to your department in the note which I had the honor of addressing to you on the 14th instant.

In both documents, and especially in the second, are at once noticeable the vacillations of its author as to what is best for him to do to get out with less discredit of the difficult positi n to which he is reduced. After having constantly asserted that he was called to Mexico by the will of the Mexican people, he now wishes to call on that very people to know whether it consents in his continuing in the character he has assumed, and for that purpose he announces that he is going to convene a congress that may decide this point, and in which all parties may be represented.

If the Mexican people have already expressed their will on this point, why should they be consulted again on the same subject? Besides, that people, which, with arms in their hands, have been expressing their will in an unequivo-

cal manner, would not lend themselves to participate in elections ordered by Maximilian, should they be attempted; since they do not recognize the right to convoke elections except in the national government, which exercises it in conformity with the constitution of the republic. The complete accord which exists between the conduct of the ex-Archduke of Austria and the suggestions made to him by his counsellor, M. F. Eloin, in the letter which he wrote to Maximilian, dated at Brussels on the 17th of September last, is a very remarkable fact. I referred to this letter in the note I had the honor to address to your department on the 10th of October following.

It seems to me, besides, that there is some inconsistency in the present desire of the Austrian ex-Archduke to have assembled in congress, for no less a purpose than that of deciding whether the so-called empire shall exist or not, the portion of the Mexican people which has not ceased to resist French intervention and all its consequences, with the provisions of his decree of October 3, 1865, which still remains in force, and which, as you well know, provides that all Mexicans defending the independence of their country shall be shot, denying them even the rights which civilized nations accord to belligerents.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c.*, *&c.*, *&c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.—From Diario del Imperio, (organ of the empire,) November 3.]

OFFICIAL STATEMENT AS TO MAXIMILIAN'S ABDICATION.

His majesty, anxious to facilitate the solution of the difficulties created by the present crisis, convoked, as is well known, his council of state at the city of Orizaba, and afterward called thither a majority of his ministers for the purpose of consulting them as to whether the way to accomplish such solution would not be to return to the people, from whom he received it, sovereign power. As his reason for such resolve, he called their attention to the state of the civil war now raging in the empire; to the possibility of a Franco-American intervention, for the purpose of bringing such war to an end by a change in the actual institutions of the country, and also to the broken-down state of their majesties' health.

His advisers have not deemed these causes sufficient to make the emperor resign the supreme power in the present situation of the country. They have even besought him to remain at the head of the nation, and thus preserve the interests of society, threatened with destruction by revolutionists, and to prepare to defend, in every eventuality, the independence and nationality of Mexico, confided to his care. The appeal in behalf of interests so dear, thus made by the highest body in the state, could not pass unnoticed by his majesty, who glories in being the first of Mexicans. Determined to make any sacrifice for the benefit of his country, his majesty, before acceding to the wishes of his council of ministers and of state, awaited only their judgment as to the possibility of solving certain political questions relative to the convocation of a national congress based upon the most liberal as well as upon universal suffrage; also relative to financial and military matters, and likewise relative to the opening of important diplomatic negotiations.

The council decided that these questions would be considered by them at once in the order of their respective importance, and at the present moment his majesty is taking into consideration their request.

[Enclosure No 2.]

ORIZABA, *December* 1.

MEXICANS: Circumstances of great magnitude relating to the welfare of our country, and which increase in strength by our domestic difficulties, have produced in our mind the conviction that we ought to reconsider the power confided to us. Our council of ministers by us convened has given as their opinion, that the welfare of Mexico still requires our presence at the head of affairs; and we have considered it our duty to accede to their request, announcing at the same time our intention to convoke a national congress on the most ample and liberal basis, where all political parties can participate; and this congress shall decide whether the empire shall continue in future; and, in case of assent, shall assist in framing the fundamental laws to consolidate the public institutions of the country. To obtain this result, our counsellors are at present engaged in devising the necessary means, and at the same time arrange matters in such a manner that all parties may assist in an arrangement on that basis.

In the mean time, Mexicans, counting upon you all, without excluding any political class, we shall continue the work of regeneration with courage and constancy, having been placed in charge of your countrymen.

MAXIMILIAN.

[Enclosure No. 3.—From the New York Daily Herald.]

ORIZABA, *December* 12, 1866.

MAXIMILIAN'S HIDING PLACE.

Rightly judging, as events have since shown, that Orizaba would be the next *point d'appui* in the Mexican revolution, I have made my way here, fortunately in time to witness the departure of Maximilian. It was a strange fortune that thrust this quiet, beautiful city of the mountains into notoriety. Its magnificent climate, never very hot and never uncomfortably cold, together with the grandeur of the surrounding scenery, were probably the reasons that recommended it to Maximilian as his temporary place of refuge. Strategic merits it has none. Here the Austrian archduke whom misfortune has made an emperor has passed his time for the last month or two, writing voluminous despatches, which, like Mr. Toodle's letters, seem to have reached no one but the writer; in chasing beetles and butterflies and in raising up for himself, on very insufficient capital, a great and undeserved reputation as a *roué*. He used to drive out daily, attended by only a few Austrian soldiers, and generally in the direction of Cocolapa, where there are a large cotton factory and a paper mill, whose operations he found pleasure in watching, till the French, ill-natured and for no other reason, apparently, than to give him annoyance, threw a barricade across the road, with room only for a horse or foot passenger to pass through Thus cut off from his daily drive, Maximilian, who does not much fancy horse exercise, has took to pedestrianism, and twenty times a day he was to be seen in the streets, dressed simply in a hussar jacket and forage cap, his long lanky legs encased in tight-fitting breeches, terminated by Hessian boots, and with no mark of his rank except a handsome gold medal on his breast. I met him thus at least three or four times yesterday. He was attended by his master of the household only; and, as he walked rapidly along, striding over the gutters and wedging his way among the barricades, few turned their heads to look after him, and fewer still paid him the slightest mark of respect. He looked careworn and muddled, but not in any way depressed. The building which Maximilian has occupied as a palace is an unassuming private building, two storied, as all houses are in this

volcanic country, and limewashed a dingy green hue. The front part is let out as stores, and a tobacconist and a dry-goods dealer hang out their signs under the imperial flag.

THE DEPARTURE.

Thus matters stood yesterday, when the rumors of Maximilian's projected return to the capital, which had for a long time prevailed, began to assume a more connected shape, and gradually it leaked out that Maximilian would certainly leave for Mexico city at six o'clock this morning. French troops were sent ahead to clear the road as far as Puebla, and all the Austrian troops in Orizaba were placed under marching orders. Long before daylight this morning the march began, but it was considerably after six o'clock before Maximilian, attended by his ever present factotum, Father Fisher, stepped into his travelling carriage, drawn by twelve sturdy mules, and gave the word, "On to Mexico." Not a cheer was raised nor a hat lifted. The stolid Mexicans who happened to be on hand looked on and smiled and chattered placidly among each other, but neither seemed nor cared to understand the import of what was occurring. The imperial escort consisted of about two hundred Austrian cavalry, all told. He leaves behind him none but French troops in Orizaba.

The issue is reduced to a game of checkmate between Maximilian and Marshal Bazaine. Maximilian returns to the capital, not with any strong expectation of regaining the power he once wielded there, but to spite and thwart the French, whose treatment of him latterly he feels has been neither just nor honorable.

BAZAINE'S DESIGNS.

From the first Marshal Bazaine hated and despised the archduke, who was sent out to take a position which he himself coveted. Maximilian instead of crushing him when he had the means, weakly sought to propitiate him by costly gifts. Bazaine went on consolidating his influence, till at last he got Maximilian in his grasp, and for the last few months he has held him virtually as a State prisoner. In every district not overrun by the liberals, Marshal Bazaine is emperor of Mexico, not Maximilian. He holds the troops and the purse-strings, and has left to Maximilian but the semblance of a sovereignty. Moreover, facts are coming to light which seem to indicate a design on the part of Bazaine to hold on to his power at all risks, with or without the countenance of the French government. Vain, ambitious, and unscrupulous, he will stick at nothing to carry his ends. From sources of the best information I learn that within the last few days he has been endeavoring to open communication with the liberals, and even got together such liberal chiefs as he could find, in and around Mexico, and made overtures to them for their support. They rejected his proposals with contempt. Meanwhile every petty insult and contumely has been heaped upon Maximilian to induce him to quit the country. The barricading of his favorite drive is one of many such acts.

MAXIMILIAN WANTING TO BOLT.

It was while the irritation caused by these slights were fresh upon him that Miramon and Marquez and his council of state came to Orizaba and urged Maximilian to return to the capital. The French were daily pressing him to abdicate, and he, to thwart them, was seriously preparing to hurry down to Vera Cruz, *incognito*, and embark at once for Austria. The strong remonstrances of Mr. Scarlet, the British minister, against this undignified step alone prevented him from doing so, and resulted in the notable Orizaba manifesto, al-

ready published in the Herald. Then it seems to have occurred to him that the proposition of Miramon and Marquez afforded him the best opportunity of spiting Bazaine and defeating the French; so back to the capital he has gone

MIRAMON A FUGITIVE—MARQUEZ A FAILURE.

His allies, Miramon and Marquez, will be able to afford him little assistance in his perilous undertaking. Miramon's arrest has been ordered by Bazaine, and he has fled to Queretaro, sixty leagues beyond Mexico city. Marquez is still in Orizaba, but all he has done towards raising the promised twenty millions and army has been to arrest some two hundred laborers, whom he is keeping in prison till he can get arms to put in their hands, and to steal a few thousand dollars from the surrounding planters.

MAXIMILIAN ON THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

That portion of the President's message which refers to Mexican affairs was telegraphed to Orizaba immediately on its reception in Vera Cruz. Maximilian is said to have rather enjoyed it, as affording another chance to humiliate Bazaine.

VERA CRUZ, *December* 14, 1866.

FRENCH RE-ENFORCEMENTS.

The French steamer Panama, which has just arrived here, has brought out two hundred additional French troops and three hundred barrels of gunpowder.

SPECIAL ENVOYS.

M. Eloin, the hero of so many mysterious missions, and a special courier from the French government to General Castelnau, also arrived by the steamer. The courier started at once by special train for Mexico city. The mysterious Eloin quietly booked his place in the diligence and is jogging along in the footsteps of Maximilian.

SEIZURE OF THE CUSTOM-HOUSE.

The seizure of the custom-house here by the French troops, on Sunday last, has caused considerable excitement. Maximilian sent down an order for $50,000; the French authorities refused to allow it to be cashed; the prefect protested, but a file of Egyptians cut his protest short. The seizure has been made under the convention of September last, but this convention, though it was temporarily agreed to by Maximilian, and was sent to France for approval, was never signed by him, and is consequently invalid. The French assert that they only intend to hold the custom-house for ten days.

DISTINGUISHED ARRIVAL.

Jake Thompson is wandering about the city looking considerably dazed. He booked by the French steamer for Havana, but as the vessel did not touch there he finds himself unexpectedly in Mexico. He can soon hunt up some friends here. Beverley Tucker is managing a hacienda at San Luis Potosi, and considers he has fallen into a good thing; and General Price, Governor Harris, Judge Perkins and General Joe Shelby are all at Cordova.

[From L'Estafette, December 2, 1866.]

BAZAINE. DANO AND CASTELNAU DEFINE THEIR POSITION.

The official organ of the empire on the 29th of November published an article purporting to state the object of the emperor Maximilian in calling his ministers and council of state to Orizaba. Said article appeared in the non-official columns of that paper; but it is well known that it had been transmitted over the telegraph by the ministry, with the order to publish at once.

Public opinion was justly excited on learning that the emperor Maximilian gave as his reasons for an eventual abdication, first, the state of civil war in which the country is plunged; and, second, the possibility of a Franco-American intervention for the purpose of bringing such war to a close through a change in existing institutions.

This last idea may appear strange, put forth as it was from the midst of a council which has no safe places of assemblage except under the protection of French bayonets. It then becomes important to set forth the truth of the case.

France has no wish to interfere in relation to the form of government which the Mexican nation may wish to adopt. Having sent her troops to Mexico for the protection of her own subjects, and animated as she is with the desire to put an end to the disorders from which all classes suffered alike, she would certainly have preferred to see established that form which appears to her eyes as offering the strongest guarantees of stability. But far from having done anything whatever for the purpose of changing the existing institutions, she has made the most disinterested but unavailing sacrifices in order to maintain them.

The trying crisis in which Mexico now finds herself can in no way be laid to the charge of France. Her agents have been kept entirely unaware of the sudden determination taken by the emperor Maximilian to leave his capital. Some of them had no knowledge of his having done so until informed by the notice published in the Diario official.

No one is ignorant, however, of the fact that when only a few leagues away from Mexico city he wished to promulgate his act of abdication. And during the past month he reverted several times to the same notion, and refrained only at the most urgent instance of his suit. All this while the orders connected with his departure had been given, and vessels were awaiting him from day to day at Vera Cruz. Even the majority of his counsellors were kept in utter ignorance of the real intentions of his majesty. The agents of France were neither consulted nor notified. However, the emperor Maximilian, having manifested to them a desire to obtain from them important concessions before taking any final step, they made every effort to grant the concessions asked. His majesty returned them his thanks for this, and, in view of an eventuality which at that stage appeared imminent, but which they had not been instrumental in bringing about, they consulted as to what measures might be necessary in order to secure the interests of all—Mexicans as well as foreigners—declaring that they would leave the Mexican nation to choose its own destiny, and they made no attempt or pretence to impose any form of government upon it. They could go no further; and, in view of the action taken by the imperial government, their duty becomes very simple. They do not wish to take any part in the proceedings of interested parties; this would be to revive hatred and rekindle the flames of civil war, which they were endeavoring to extinguish. Henceforth they will confine themselves to the rigid execution of their instructions, namely, to disengage in the most absolute manner, the responsibility of their government; to look only to such interests as it is directly incumbent on them to protect; and to prepare, in the shortest time possible, the complete evacuation of the expeditionary corps.

On the following day the Estafette published the following notice:

"Some persons believe that the official communication which we published on Sunday emanated exclusively from the legation of France. We are authorized to state that the note referred to is the common act of the three high French authorities now resident in Mexico—that is, of Marshal Bazaine, the minister of France, and General Castelnau."

The same journal, as if to show that the French troops are in a hurry to evacuate, gives the following:

"Lieutenant Colonel the Marquis de Galiffet will take command of the contra guerillas in the Tierra Caliente. Colonel Dupin is to be appointed governor of the department of Vera Cruz.

"This looks like vigorous action on the coast."

No. 72.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, January 2, 1867.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 22d ultimo, containing a translation of an article published lately in the Diario del Imperio, and of a manifesto issued by the Prince Maximilian, showing his determination to remain in Mexico, for which accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 73.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, December 27, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: Refering myself to the note which I had the honor to address to the department, dated 5th October last, in relation to the answer I gave to an inquiry of General Regules, chief of the army of the centre of the republic of Mexico, about a continuation of hostilities against the forces invading Mexico, I have now the satisfaction of sending you copy of a communication which I have received from Mr. Lerdo de Tejada, minister of foreign relations of the constitutional government of the republic, dated at Chihuahua on the 16th of November last past, and marked No. 502, in which are approved the instructions I gave on that occasion to General Regules.

I avail of the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Translation.]

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT—DEPARTMENT OF RELATIONS, AMERICAN SECTION, No. 502.

CHIHUAHUA, *November* 16, 1866.

With your notes Nos. 660 and 679, dated 5th and 12th of October last, you sent me a copy of a communication which was addressed to you by General Regules, chief the army of the centre, about the conduct of the French along the line of his command, and a copy of the reply you gave him, as well as copies also of the note in which you gave notice of the former to Mr. Seward, and of his reply.

The President of the republic, being informed of these, has approved of what you say to General Regules about the compromises of the French government with that of the United States as to the non-continuance of intervention in Mexico, which are not compromises in which the government of the republic has taken part, and in no way affect the war which the forces of the republic must continue to carry on as before against the invading forces. When there is occasion you can communicate to General Regules that the government has approved your answer, and, in view of it, have considered it unneccesary to address to him a communication of like import on said affair.

I protest to you my respectful consideration.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

Citizen MATIAS ROMERO, *Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Washington.*

WASHINGTON, *December* 27, 1866.

A copy:

C. ROMERO, *Acting Secretary.*

No. 74.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, January 2, 1867.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 27th ultimo, containing a copy of a note addressed to you by Mr. Lerdo de Tejada relative to some instructions which you gave General Regules, and the tenor of which you communicated to this department on the 5th of last October, and to beg of you to receive my thanks for the information.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 2.

MILITARY OPERATIONS OF THE NORTHERN DIVISION.

List of papers.

75. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward (with 4 enclosures).....April 8, 1866.
76. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....July 19, 1866.
77. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward (with 7 enclosures).....April 25, 1866.

78. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....July 6, 1866.
79. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward (with 4 enclosures).....April 26, 1866.
80. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward (with 18 enclosures).....August 1, 1866.
81. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....August 8, 1866.
82. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward (with 25 enclosures).....November 27, 1866.
83. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....December 8, 1866.

No. 75.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, April 8, 1866.

MR. SECRETARY: For the information of the government of the United States, I have the honor to enclose you No. 11 of the official paper of the government of the republic of Mexico, published at the town of Paso del Norte, on the 8th day of May last, containing the official report made by the governor and military commander of the State of Coahuila to the minister of war, in relation to victories gained over the interventionists at San Juan de Guadalupe, and the hacienda of San Carlos, State of Durango, by the forces of the republic, together with the reply of General Ignacio Mejia, minister of war.

I avail myself of the opportunity to protest to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.—From the official paper of the Mexican government, No. 11, volume 2, El Paso Del Norte, March 8, 1867.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF COAHUILA DE ZARAGOZA.

The success of our arms at San Carlos and San Juan de Guadalupe, and the flattering prospect in the district of Parras, caused this government to attract the enemy's attention by sending to Monterey for Colonel Geronimo Trevino's forces, and proposing an attack on Saltillo or the city of Monterey itself. As the plan seemed plausible, an attack on Saltillo was fixed for the 15th instant. When the two hundred men were ready, (all we could arm in that quarter,) a despatch was received from the alcalde of Cuatro Cienagas, informing us of the arrival there of Colonel Jesus Gonzales Herrera, from Parras, with three hundred men, having been driven out by Brincourt in force, aided by other imperialists under Francisco, Trevino, and Maximo Campos. Of course this delayed our proposed expedition.

Not many days had passed before we heard from that quarter. Mention was made of the burning of Matamoras and Soledad, in that district, and of many houses of good patriots in Viesca; we heard of the murder of more than fifty innocent and unarmed persons, among them two men over eighty years of age, and a child of twelve. It was also said that Brincourt's division had gone back to Durango, and left only three hundred French in Viezca.

As Colonel Gonzales had three hundred men with him, and could soon collect those dispersed by the French; and as the troops of Jeanningros were scattered at Parras, Saltillo, Rinconada, and Santa Catarina, and there were only six hundred of the enemy in Monterey, we determined to attack that town. On the

3d instant six hundred men were sent to Bajan, to act in concert with Colonel Trevino and Francisco Naranjo, with all probability of success.

I cannot omit to mention in this place, Mr. Minister, the honorable conduct of the people of this frontier. Considering the precarious situation to which they have been reduced by this foreign war, they have performed wonders; supplies have been furnished abundantly to our troops; clothing, horses, and arms to the forces of Laguna; and $9,000 to equip troops for Colonel Naranjo. Besides this they equipped 300 for Victoriano Zepeda, and furnished powder and other munitions to some forces in the State of New Leon.

Now the commander-in-chief will have the pleasure of starting on his expedition with men well clothed and well provided, and by the uninvited efforts of private citizens, prompted solely by feelings of patriotism and the desire to see foreigners driven from the land they have desecrated.

I must also inform you of the lucky escape of Commander Victor Berlanga from an ambuscade, laid for him by the French in the State of Durango, with the loss of only a few provisions.

I will give you the particulars of the last fight as soon as they reach me.

I have the honor to inform you of this, that it may be communicated to the supreme chief of the republic.

Independence and liberty! San Buenaventura, January 29, 1866.

A. S. VIEZCA.

EDUARDO MUSQUIZ,
Secretary pro tempore.

The MINISTER OF WAR, *Chihuahua.*

[Enclosure No. 2.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

The citizen President of the republic has considered your communication of the 29th January, stating the plans for a new campaign, and the generous aid contributed by the people of the State, and is much pleased at such proofs of patriotism. He orders me to thank you and the citizens who have aided to fit out the expedition. He is indignant at the barbarous conduct of the French troops, who came to burn the houses of Laguna, because they were whipped at San Juan de Guadalupe and San Carlos, and General Brincourt came all the way from Durango to murder two old men and a child. Such deeds are evidence of the evils of intervention; and these sanguinary and inhuman practices the French make use of to terrify the people will certainly be avenged.

Independence and liberty! Paso del Norte, March 6, 1866.

MEJIA.

The GOVERNOR AND MILITARY COMMANDER
of the State of Coahuila de Zaragoza, (wherever he may be.)

PASO DEL NORTE, *March* 6, 1866.

True copies:

MARIANO DIAZ, *Chief Clerk.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF COAHUILA DE ZARAGOZA.

Colonel Jesus Gonzales Herrera informed me in a despatch of the 22d ultimo, from San Fernando, State of Durango, that about the middle of the month he

marched on Parras, with one thousand men, aided by Colonel Juan Vega, with all the men he could raise in the district; on the way he received an insulting challenge from the French officer in San Juan de Guadalupe, so he determined to attack that place first. He ordered Colonel Dario Lopez Orduño forward with a section of his troops, and he began the assault with his usual impetuosity. But a mortal wound soon disabled him, and he was brought from the field in a dying condition. Victor Berlanga succeeded him in command, and soon gained a complete victory. The enemy left seventy killed and many wounded and prisoners. Three men who were placed over the city to govern it were shot by our forces. We next moved on to San Carlos, in the same State, where there were 300 French and a number of traitors. The attack was made, and the enemy fled, leaving sixteen killed, fifteen wounded and five prisoners. We also got eighteen fine horses. Though the soldiers were very tired, they pursued the enemy for several leagues. Colonel Herrera adds that he is now collecting his forces to move on Parras, which place he hopes to occupy in a very short time.

It affords me much pleasure to communicate to you these favorable feats of arms for the information of the President. I will make honorable mention of the men who distinguished themselves as soon as I get the particulars of the engagement.

Liberty and reform! Monclova, January 1, 1866.

A. S. VIEZCA.

EDUARDO MUZQUIZ,
Secretary pro. tem., Chihuahua.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE, SECTION FIRST.

Your report of the 1st January of the victories at San Juan de Guadalupe and San Carlos, in the State of Durango, by Colonel Jesus G. Herrea, has been made known to the President of the republic, and he orders me to say to you that he is satisfied with the important results of those operations, and the gallant conduct of the chiefs and men engaged in them.

I have the honor to communicate this to you for your information and the gratification of all interested.

Independence and liberty! Paso del Norte, March 6, 1866.

MEJIA.

The GOVERNOR AND MILITARY COMMANDER
of the State of Coahuila de Zaragoza, (wherever he may be.)

PASO DEL NORTE, *March* 6, 1866.

True copies:

MARIANO DIAZ, *Chief Clerk.*

No. 76.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 19, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 8th of April, containing a copy of No. 11 of the official paper of your government, giving the correspondence of the military commander of the State of Coahuila with the minister of war of Mexico, on the subject of some military operations, and to thank you for the information.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 77.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, April 25, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you the copy of a note which I have just received from Señor Lerdo de Tejada, minister of foreign relations of the Mexican republic, numbered 167, and dated El Paso del Norte, 29th of March last, together with No. 13 of the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, of the same date, containing the official report and other documents in relation to the victory at Santa Isabel, on the first of March last, of the patriotic sons of Coahuila and New Leon over a force of French and traitors, who were entirely destroyed.

I also enclose a copy of the paper.

I embrace the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT—OFFICE OF RELATIONS, AMERICAN SECTION, NO. 167.

PASO DEL NORTE, *March* 29, 1865.

I enclose you No. 13 of the official paper of the government of this date, containing the report of General A. S. Viesca, and other documents relating to the victory at San Isabel on the first of this month, by the patriotic sons of the States of New Leon and Coahuila, over a force of French and traitors, who were entirely destroyed.

Accept my attentive consideration.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

Citizen MATIAS ROMERO,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
of the Mexican Republic in Washington.

WASHINGTON, *April* 25, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.—From No. 13 of the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, Paso del Norte, March 29, 1866.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATE OF COAHUILA DE ZARAGOZA.

After the detailed account I gave the department on the 18th ultimo, I am now pleased to report another complete victory gained by our forces on the first instant, and the operations of my brigade and the northern cavalry under Colonel Geronimo Treviño.

On the 16th of February last, a column of French forced me to evacuate Parras and take shelter in Laguna, to recruit there and finish the traitor Maximo Campos before the French could aid him. I did not succeed in this, because the traitors fled, and took a rapid circuit over the frontiers of Durango and Zacatecas, and then joined the French in Parras. I continued to watch that place while two French columns of eight or nine hundred men were approaching me from Durango and Chihuahua. I retained my position till the 27th February, when I heard that Geronimo Treviño and Francisco Naranjo were approaching Parras to aid me with their cavalry. I immediately divided my brigade into two columns, so as to march on Parras from different directions, and wait for the expected cavalry in the neighborhood. This was accordingly effected. On the morning of the first, my first column joined Colonel Treviño's cavalry at Santa Isabel, three leagues distant, having marched thirty leagues without stopping.

Two hours after camping, we heard firing in our front. At first I supposed it was an accidental skirmish, but I was soon informed that the enemy had made a formal attack upon our front. I soon agreed with Colonel Treviño upon a mode of defence, and in a very short time we were ready for the fight. Our advance of forty men, under Colonel Joaquin Garza Leal, bravely resisted the attack of 215 French and more than 400 traitors for two hours, and then fell back in good order to our camp, without the loss of a man.

We then attacked the enemy with two columns of infantry on the left flank, sent one forward in the centre, and a company of cavalry to the right. The fight soon became general; our brave men made an obstinate resistance, and finally put the enemy to flight, leaving the field strewn with the dead and wounded, their baggage scattered around, and many prisoners in our hands. The northern legion and Parras lancers pursued them for some distance, as you will learn from the enclosed report of Colonel Treviño. I also enclose a list of our losses, and those of the enemy, as well as a list of the French prisoners in our hands.

No victory could be more complete than ours on that glorious day, and I take great pleasure in congratulating the President of the republic on the happy influence this brilliant victory will have on our future operations.

The behavior of our officers and men was all that could be expected from gallant Mexicans fighting for their honor and the liberties of their country; every man did his duty; all shared equally the dangers and deprivations; and all rushed forward in full hope of the victory with which they were gloriously crowned.

I can make no special recommendations where all behaved in a manner to merit the praises of their countrymen, but I must not omit to mention Colonel Geronimo Treviño, Colonel Francisco Naranjo, and Lieutenant Colonel Antonio Perez Villareal, who rendered themselves conspicuous for skilful management of their commands and their personal courage.

I make this communication for the information of the President of the republic.

Independence and liberty! Curatro Cienegas, March 9, 1866.

A. S. VIEZCA.

The MINISTER OF WAR, *(wherever he may be found.)*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE FREE AND SOVEREIGN STATE OF COAHUILA DE ZARAGOZA, NORTHERN CORPS OF THE REPUBLICAN ARMY, FIRST DIVISION OF CAVALRY.

COLONEL-IN-CHIEF: I have the honor to inform you that, in obedience to orders from General Mariano Escobedo, in Linares, I started from Vivaldama with the

first cavalry division, of 800 men, in the direction of Parras, to join the attack on the traitor Maximo Campos, in that place.

On the road I heard of your encounter with Campos's forces, and that a column of 200 French were coming to his aid from Saltillo I immediately conceived the design of attacking them on their march, but at Cabos I was informed they had already reached Parras, and were preparing for defence in that city.

On receiving a despatch from you I resolved to march on to Parras, according to my first plan.

I waited for the Coahuila brigade at this place yesterday; it arrived about midnight, and camped alongside of us.

At three o'clock in the morning I heard that the enemy, 450 traitors and 215 French, were approaching.

I immediately ordered a line of battle to be formed, and wait for the onset. The enemy soon approached rapidly. He was warmly received by the Monclova squadron, under Lieutenant Colonel Ildefonso Fuentes, and the northern legion.

The combat soon became general. The enemy attacked the left angle of our line and tried to flank us with his cavalry, while a column of infantry doubled our right. The principal attack was bravely resisted by Colonel Naranjo and a part of the Coahuila brigade. I now ordered the cavalry under Lieutenant Colonel Joaquin Garza Leal and Emiliano Laing, and two infantry columns under Salvador Fernandez de la Cavada and Ruperto Martinez, to make the attack in front, while Colonel Pedro A. Gomez attacked on the left flank.

The enemy soon began to retreat under this combined movement, and we continued to pursue till nearly two-thirds were killed, and the rest surrendered at discretion. The field was covered with dead. All their horses and munitions of war fell into our hands. We found one piece of mountain artillery.

I think it my duty to commend to your excellency all the officers and men who took part in this battle, though you were an eye-witness to their gallant conduct.

I also send lists of the killed, wounded, and prisoners of the enemy, with the munitions of war which we captured from him on the field of battle. The list of our killed is also included.

Accept the protest of my consideration and respect.

Independence, liberty, and reform! Hacienda of Santa Isabel, March 1, 1866.

GERONIMO TREVIÑO.

The Governor and Military Commander
of the State of Coahuila de Zaragoza, Present.

Cuatro Cienegas, *March* 9, 1866.

A true copy:

EDUARDO MUZQUIZ.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

REPUBLICAN ARMY, MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF COAHUILA DE ZARAGOZA.

List of the killed, wounded, and missing of the republican forces in the battle of the first of March, and that of the enemy, with the prisoners and munitions of war captured.

LOSS OF THE REPUBLICAN FORCE.

Cavalry division.

	Killed.
Lieutenant	1
Second Lieutenants	3

	Killed.
Sergeant	1
Soldiers	5
Total	10

	Wounded.
Colonel	1
Lieutenant colonel	1
Captain	1
Sub-lieutenant	1
Sergeants	2
Corporal	1
Soldiers	15
Total	22

Coahuila brigade.

Missing	1

LOSS OF THE ENEMY.

Second battalion of the foreign regiment.

Killed	118
Prisoners	81
Total	199

Loss among the traitors.

Killed	13
Prisoners	85
Total	98

Munitions of war left by the enemy on the field of battle.

Pieces of artillery, one; flags, one; carbines, sixty-six; rifles, fourteen; muskets, ninety-one; bayonets, ninety-two; cartridge-boxes, eighty-seven; swords, ten; revolvers, ten; lances, fifteen; axes, two; saddles, nine; pack-saddles, eight; war-chests, three; flag-staffs, one; wagons, one; pack-mules, seventeen; horses, twenty-seven.

Note No. 1.—The piece of mountain artillery taken from the enemy is of the calibre of four inches.

Note No. 2.—Of the eighty-one French prisoners, there is one second lieutenant, nine sergeants, twelve corporals, and the rest soldiers. There are seven officers among their killed, including Commander Briant.

J. CARRILLO,
Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of Staff.

CUATRO CIENEGAS, *March* 9, 1866.

I certify to the above:

VIEZCA.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

ARMY OF THE NORTH, FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION—OFFICE OF MAJOR GENERAL.

List of officers killed and wounded in the battle of Santa Isabel, near Parras, on the first of March.

Chiefs: Colonel Francisco Naranjo, second in command of the division, wounded; Lieutenant Colonel Antonio Perez Villareal, brevet major of the second brigade, wounded.

Officers: Captain Antonio Magnon, wounded; Lieutenant Cayetano Guevara, killed; Ensign Pablo Ancora, wounded, and died two days after; Ensign Hermenegildo Farias, wounded; Ensign Fernando Macias, killed.

PEDRO A. GOMEZ.

CUATRO CIENEGAS, *March* 9, 1866.

CUATRO CIENEGAS, *March* 9, 1866.

A true copy:

EDOUARDO MUZQUIZ,
Secretary pro. tem.

[Enclosure No. 6.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—REPUBLICAN ARMY—MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF COAHUILA DE ZARAGOZA.

List of French prisoners, including wounded, of the second battalion of the foreign regiment, taken on the glorious day of the first of March.

Second Lieutenant Montier.

Sergeants: Garelle (wounded,) Echmann, Crala, Conston, Acombela (wounded,) Desbardes, Stenck, Pulois, Ceconni (wounded.)

Corporals: Glame, Wensolbuk (wounded,) Connel (wounded,) Valf (wounded,) Holins (wounded,) Perault, Menange, Gemonpret, Marval, Raulx, Bosquet (wounded,) Mathas (wounded.)

Soldiers: De George, Reys, Clad, Ewing, Delimege, F. Muller, G. Muller (wounded,) Zulig, Keber, Chaumam (wounded,) Obnecht (wounded,) Mentha, Sonferce, Pace, Pella (wounded,) Cabout (wounded,) A. Muller (wounded,) Parture (wounded,) Dender, Rubber, Manzt, Schapel, Pauly, Albert, Mars, Stok, Antonio (wounded,) Marchant, Eschener, Balt (wounded,) Menges, Kafsemberg, Slambak, Vorfeld, Shoumaker, Balki, Charles, Schmilk, Paltrinieri, Creau, Mainzh, Heina, Wiltmaye, Korber, Muller, Mies, Hensein, Rimoldi, Geringer, Meunos, Becker, Mudispacher, Heffneich, Bebaker, Aoss, Voigt, Zunnier, Menthe (wounded,) Heilfreick (wounded,) Idatt (wounded.) Total, 81.

F. CARRILLO,
Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of Staff.

CUATRO CIENEGAS, *March* 9, 1866.

A certified copy:

VIEZCA.

[Enclosure No. 7.]

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, BRANCH OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

Your report of the 9th instant has given the President of the republic great satisfaction; he is rejoiced at the defeat of the French and traitors who dared

to attack us on the first at Santa Isabel. This great feat of arms, the result of your plans and your courage in carrying them out, is of great importance on the frontier, and will have a good influence on the success of our future operations.

The worthy and gallant behavior of the chiefs, officers, and soldiers, who took part in the conflict mentioned by Colonel Geronimo Treviño in his report, is properly appreciated by the President, and he instructs me to thank you for the part you took in the fight, as well as all others who acted so gallantly on the occasion.

The especial recommendations you make in your report will be attended to by the government, with respect to the persons mentioned; and the gallant conduct of all will be remembered, that they may be noticed in their turn.

The President wishes you to give the greatest care to the wounded, and make a list of those maimed or killed in the action, that they or their heirs may enjoy the corresponding pensions.

The great sacrifices the people are making to sustain and increase the forces that are fighting for national independence, and the self-denial and patriotism of those who are serving personally, are the surest guarantees of the safety of the country.

Independence and liberty! Paso del Norte, March 29, 1866.

MEJIA.

The GOVERNOR AND MILITARY COMMANDER
of the State of Coahuila de Zaragoza.

PASO DEL NORTE, *March* 29, 1866.

The above are authentic copies:

MARIANO DIAZ,
Chief Officer.

No. 78.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 6, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 25th of April last, containing copy of a note addressed to you by Señor Lerdo de Tejada, also No. 13 of the official paper of your government, for which please accept my thanks.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 79.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, April 26, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to enclose you the copy of a note received yesterday from Mr. Lerdo de Tejada, minister of foreign relations of the Mexican republic, dated at Paso del Norte, the 30th of March last, numbered 175,

and a supplement to No. 13 of the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic of the same date, containing official reports of the complete victory gained by the national forces of Mexico, under General Terrazas, in the capture of Chihuahua on the 25th of the same month. In the same paper, a copy of which I enclose, you will find an official report of the capture of Hidalgo del Parral on the 22d of March, by Colonel Vazquez, who took that city by assault.

All the invading forces have finally been driven from the State of Chihuahua.

I accept the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Acknowledged July 6, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

No. 175.] DEP'T OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT,
Paso del Norte, March 30, 1866.

In the supplement to No. 13 of the official paper of the government which I send, you will find reports of the complete victories gained by the national forces under General Luis Terrazas, in the capture of the city of Chihuahua, on the 25th of this month.

You will also see a report of the capture of the town of Hidalgo del Parral on the 22d, by Colonel Agustin Vazquez, with the arrest of the pretended traitor, political prefect Julio Carranco.

Thus you will see that the State of Chihuahua is now free from the enemy.

Accept the protests of my attentive consideration.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

The MINISTER OF THE MEXICAN REPUBLIC.
in the United States of America.

WASHINGTON, *April* 26, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.—supplement to No. 13 of the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF CHIHUAHUA.

I reached this place at nine o'clock yesterday morning, and the enemy sallied out to attack me very soon after I came in sight. He was instantly driven back, leaving one hundred prisoners in our hands, many killed, wounded, and missing, and one cannon. The city was then assaulted, and by noon the traitors were confined to their fortifications and the city captured. The forts were fired upon during the day, and were soon to have been assaulted; but at eleven o'clock at night most of the officers and a number of soldiers managed to escape, leaving us three hundred prisoners and all the munitions of war.

The fugitives took the road to San Pablo; I ordered them to be pursued, and hope they are secured by this time.

Our loss in killed and wounded is not great, considering the duration of the unequal contest. We lost nothing else.

I will send a complete report as soon as I can get the particulars; in the mean time I wish to recommend to the government the entire State brigade, its officers and men, and other officers whose services have been of the greatest importance.

Please report this to the President of the republic, and congratulate him upon this triumph of the national arms.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, March 26, 1866.

LUIS TERRAZAS.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE, *Paso del Norte.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF CHIHUAHUA.

Colonel Agustin Vazquez, commander of the southern State line, reports as follows, from Hidalgo city, the 22d instant:

"I reached the suburbs of Hildalgo city at noon to-day, with the forces under my command, and immediately marched to meet the enemy in the place. The fight soon began, and lasted till three in the evening, when the enemy surrendered, and I took possession of the city.

"All my men behaved gallantly, and I recommend them to you for it. Our loss was insignificant, while the enemy's was great.

"I will send a complete report as soon as it can be made out, and congratulate the supreme national government, as well as the State government, on this signal triumph.

"I will continue to hold the place till I receive further orders from the supreme government."

I make this known to you for the information of the President of the republic.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, March 26, 1866.

LUIS TERRAZAS.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE, *Paso.*

[Enclosure No. 4.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF CHIHUAHUA.

The political and military chief of the canton of Rosales sent the following report to me yesterday:

"Long live the supreme government! Long last the independence of Mexico!

"As soon as I heard of the direction the fugitives had taken—the routed traitors had taken to the hills—I called together a few neighbors and started in pursuit of them. We succeeded in catching the so-called prefect, Julio Carranco, ensign Teofilo Cabezuela, a man named Miguel Vargas, who says he is a private individual, and fourteen soldiers. They are now confined here at the disposal of the government."

This is reported for the information of the President, and to ask him what is to be done with the prisoners mentioned.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, March 27, 1866.

LUIS TERRAZAS.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE, *Paso del Norte.*

No. 80.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, August 1, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to remit to you for the information of the government of the United States the documents mentioned in the annexed in-

dex, which show what have been the military operations of the army of the north of the republic of Mexico, from the beginning of April to the end of June last, in which such operations ended with the capture of Matamoras, after the complete victory obtained by the national forces over the enemy at La mesa de Santa Gertrudis on the 16th June aforesaid.

This is a very satisfactory occasion for me to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Index of the documents which the Mexican legation at Washington remits to the Department of State of the United States, with its note of this date, upon the military operations of the army of the north.

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1	Feb. 22	Proclamation of General Garza, chief of the forces of the south and centre of Tamaulipas, to the troops which sustained the usurpation of Maximilian.
2	April 25	Official report of General Albino Espinosa, quartermaster general of the army of the north, to General Escobedo, chief of said army, of the battle of Tanquecitos against Dupin on April 24, 1866.
3	May 22	Proclamation of General Pedro Martinez, chief of the third brigade of cavalry of the army of the north, to the towns along the southern line of New Leon.
4	May 27	Proclamation of General Escobedo, of the army of the north, on occasion of late events.
5	May 30	The constitutional alcalde of Rio Blanco communicates to General Escobedo the outrages committed by the French in that settlement during the occupation by them.
6	May 31	The commander of the squadron of Rio Blanco makes similar communication to General Escobedo.
7	June 5	General Escobedo orders General Treviño, in command of the first division of cavalry of the army of the north, to make reprisals on the prisoners taken from the enemy.
8	June 8	Proclamation of Lieutenant Colonel Darius Garza, of the army of the north, to the inhabitants of the second district of the State of New Leon, on account of the depredations committed by the French.
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10	June 16	Official report of General Escobedo to the minister of war, of the victory of La mesa de Santa Gertrudis.
11	June 16	Proclamation of General Escobedo, congratulating the troops of his command on their participation in such victory.
12	June 19	Report in detail from General Escobedo to the department of war, of the same victory.
13	June 17	Statement of the number of killed, wounded, and prisoners in the battle of La mesa de Santa Gertrudis.
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15	June 17	Account of the chiefs, officers, and soldiers taken prisoners from the enemy at the battle of La mesa de Santa Gertrudis.
16	June 23	Capitulation of the city of Matamoras, by which it was delivered to the forces of the national government of Mexico.
17	June 23	Proclamation of General Caravajal to the inhabitants of Tamaulipas, mentioning the occupation of Matamoras.
18	June 23	Proclamation of General Garza to the inhabitants of Matamoras.

WASHINGTON, *August* 1, 1866.

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

The general commanding in chief the forces of the central and southern districts of Tamaulipas to the troops of any nationality sustaining the empire.

VICTORIA, *February* 22, 1866.

SOLDIERS: It is four years since you were brought here to fight us, who only ask to govern ourselves according to republican principles. You are made to believe that the ridiculous throne of Maximilian can be consolidated in this country, and you have not been told that we are so far from accepting it that the only emperor we ever had (Iturbide) paid with his head for the title he bore so short a time.

Iturbide was a Mexican—was supported by Mexicans. He had in his favor the great renown which he justly obtained by making us shake off the Spanish yoke, and yet he fell. Do you think that a foreigner, sustained by foreigners, who comes from Austria, begging the protection of Napoleon III, to make himself emperor of a country which does not even know him, can long usurp the supreme power of our country? Soldiers, you have been misled. In lieu of a military promenade, which you thought to take through our country, you find that every one of our defiles swarms with liberal forces, always ready to oppose you.

Many among you have come to make part of the so-called guard of the emperatrez; but, in place of the life of luxury which you expected, you are obliged to run over Mexico from one end to the other, to meet death at the hands of the audacious guerillas.

French, Germans, Belgians, Italians, (I address myself to all foreigners who compose the imperial army:) Our country has magnificent lands, which only await laborious hands to repay with usury the trouble of cultivation. Abandon that army which wages such an unjust war upon us; come where the defenders of Mexican independence are found. If you wish to share our toils, you shall enjoy the same privileges as the republican soldier. If you prefer your passports for the north or any other foreign country, they shall be furnished you, with all the securities of our legislation. But if you wish to settle as peaceable citizens on any part of our lands, you shall be protected so that you may live quietly.

Many among us formerly belonged to the French army and the foreign legion; they can tell you how they have been treated. You will then see that I do not mislead you.

JUAN J. DE LA GARZA,
General-in-Chief of the Independent Forces of the Central and Southern Districts of Tamaulipas.

[Enclosure No. 2.—From the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, No. 18, Paso del Norte, May 31, 1866.]

ARMY CORPS OF THE NORTH.

We take the following despatch from the official bulletin, of Linares:

SOLEDAD, *April* 25, 1866.

I am pleased to inform you that I started on the 24th, at three in the morning, for Valle de Purisima, with a division of infantry and one section of mountain artillery. We left the sick and baggage at that place.

The design of this march was to attack a force of French and traitors, consisting of 300 infantry, 300 cavalry, and two pieces of mountain artillery, under Dupin, that had arrived at Arroyo on the 23d.

On the morning of the 24th, I arrived at the Tanquecitos and Soledad cross-roads, where I found General Aureliano Riveras, at the head of the San Luis cavalry brigade. Scarcity of water along the main road forced me to the Chavez pond, where I arrived at three in the afternoon. After a short rest, I went on to Tanquecitos. On the way, I perceived a great dust on the left of the road, near Jaramillo, and soon learned from scouts that it was caused by the enemy's cavalry returning from water.

I immediately ordered citizen Aureliano Riveras, with 100 cavalry, to attack him, and cut off his return to the town, or to feign an attack and draw him into ambush, while I took possession of Tanquecitos and intrenched there.

At half past five in the afternoon I ordered cannon to open on the place, to drive the enemy out. He soon returned the fire, but did not continue long. Trusting to their strength, the French traitors dashed upon us, and we had to give back till we came to the infantry, when the battle became general.

I then ordered Colonel E. Mayer with the Zaragoza battalion to a stream where cavalry could only pass in two places. He started with the shout of hurrah for the republic! and very soon came up with the enemy. In the mean time I sent Colonel A. Flores, with a battalion of hunters and a company of sappers, to take the advance. They marched forward with the same shouts of confidence.

Some of the enemy that had crossed in pursuit of our cavalry had to retreat in double-quick, and fell back to the protection of a column of infantry and a piece of artillery. But he soon returned to the charge, with a company of rifles, and came within a few yards of our lines. I had already begun to advance with the rest of the battalions and two pieces of artillery, trusting the left to Colonel L. Casares, of the mixt battalion. I ordered an attack, firing in battalions, and it was so mortally destructive, the traitors soon retreated.

I now ordered General Riveras to cross the river and drive the enemy back; and I gave a similar order to Captain Garcia, who commanded the escort. The enemy now presented himself for the third time, but was so warmly received by our cavalry he had to retreat in great precipitation.

Our victory was complete; we held possession of the field; but the darkness of the night favored the enemy in his escape, and he carried off the greater part of his dead and wounded. We found ten Europeans killed on a small space of ground; so we judge his loss must have been one-fourth. The traitors are generally one-half; and, as we did not find one of them dead upon the field, we think they must have deserted when returning from water, instead of joining the French.

As my only object was to whip Dupin, and I knew he was expecting 300 men to re-enforce him, I started for this place, where I arrived at noon to-day.

Our loss was insignificant; as soon as I learn it, I will let you know. A few side-arms and saddled horses fell into our hands. I cannot recommend any officer especially, as they all behaved courageously. After a march of fourteen leagues, over a rough road, without water or provisions, our brave fellows whipped an equal number of the enemy, better armed and provisioned.

I congratulate you, general, on this national victory of the 24th of April, begging you will make it known to the President of the republic.

Independence and liberty!

ALVINO ESPINOSA.

Citizen MARIANO ESCOBEDO,
General-in-Chief of the Northern Army Corps at Linares.

LINARES, *April* 26, 1866.

A true copy:

J. G. DORIA, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

Pedro Martinez, cavalry colonel, chief of the third brigade in the southern line of New Leon, to the people of Galeana, Yturbide, and Rio Blanco:

FELLOW-CITIZENS: The convicts Pablo Basaldua and Juan Martinez have this day been sentenced to suffer the extreme penalty of the law, for treason to their country, in aiding and abetting its enemies in the destruction of its towns. The former deserted from the home company of Galeana José Maria Muños, and joined the invaders, to guide them in their destructive expeditions. The latter was put in office by the enemy, and exerted himself as an informer against his countrymen, persecuting his own people, and even turning against his master.

It is painful to be obliged to inflict the extreme penalty of the law upon sons of our own people, who have given many proofs of patriotism in the present contest; but even that fact aggravates the crime for which they must pay dearly, those who look upon this war as they have upon others, and think their crimes will go unpunished. No, my friends, treason must be punished upon the sacred soil of our liberties, and those are much mistaken who think they can fight for gain, but are not obliged to fight for the salvation of their country.

You have already seen what you are to expect from strangers, who sack our towns to civilize us, murder our defenceless families to teach us humanity, and commit all sorts of atrocities in the name of peace. This was recently done at Rio Blanco, where the bandit Dupin, the hyena of Tamaulipas, hung invalids and cripples, whose brothers had taken up arms in defence of their country.

Can any one remain indifferent, after witnessing such conduct? Do you not feel the blood mount to your faces, my friends, when you see the foreigner insult you in your houses? You have strong arms yet, and the advantage of a good cause. Where are the fortunes you labored for so hard? Gone! All passed into the hands of those who came to teach you to save, and to establish order and morality. You understand them now. You know the fine phrases they use to hide the thirst for robbery which they feel, and the iniquitous plan of their despotic master, the Emperor of the French. We must now pay them for the harm they have done us, and the only way to do this is to take up arms and fight our way to victory, leaving our families in the mountains till peace recalls them to their homes. Down with the infamous invaders and the hateful traitors!

And you, people of the southern part of New Leon, you who have not yet felt the invader's yoke, look at the fate of Galeana, Rio Blanco, and Yturbide, and see what you are to expect, if you do not rise at once to defend your rights and the holy cause of the independence of our mother country.

Yes, fellow-citizens, war to the knife against the slaves of Napoleon, who are polluting our soil, who come to destroy our nationality and rob us of our wealth. Down with Maximilian, who has the effrontery to call himself emperor, and then kneels to his French master, begging him to oppress the Mexican people, and cement his throne with their precious blood. Down with the invaders and traitors! Let us sustain our independence and the supreme magistrate of the nation. Hurrah for the republican army!

GALEANA, *May* 22, 1866.

PEDRO MARTINEZ.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

Mariano Escobedo, general of the republic and chief of the army corps of the north, to the troops of his command:

COMPANIONS-IN-ARMS: The enemy having prepared a great combination to fight our forces, and, as announced by his chief Doual, to annihilate us,

several Franco-traitor columns were set in motion on the march from Monterey, Saltillo, and Matelmala. The proposed operations were nullified in a few moments, as may be said, for they were compelled to return to their former position, and suffered greatly in their transit from desertions. There is scarcely a battalion constituting the first cavalry division but what has lost some soldiers through desertion. This simple fact, laying aside their hurried countermarch, which can well be termed a flight, manifests how demoralized and tired of fighting are those who have adhered to "the Austrian," and how anxiously they await the time when they can return to their homes, very sorry, as they are, that they ever came to this country to cement a throne which is in open opposition to the conviction and will of the Mexican people.

That constancy and valor which are always the distinctive characteristics of great souls have ever animated the heroes of Paso de las Cubas, Villa de Guadaloupe, Monterey, San Salvador, and St. Isabel, and in many other combats in which the liberal arms were covered with glory.

Soldiers! The enemy has lost all hope of triumph. For this reason you see him flee whenever you approach. Despair has made its way in his midst, causing him to abandon his banners and seek yours.

Forward, braves! forward! the republic has a right to expect great things of you yet. There are many forced marches to be made, battles to be fought, enemies to conquer, and injuries to avenge. Will you fall back now when the enemy has almost given up all hopes of conquest? The valor you possess, the constancy and decision of your chiefs, and the good sense and feeling of the people everywhere, make us hope that you will not recede, and that you will not desist until you see your country happy and free.

Then will you have fulfilled your duty, and history will record your actions, and the future generations will bless your names.

MARIANO ESCOBEDO.

LINARES, *May* 27, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

CONSTITUTIONAL JURISDICTION OF RIO BLANCO.

You have heard of the enemy's movement upon this valley through the communications of Colonel Pedro Martinez. He remained several days in Soledad, and then retired to Laja; but this was only a feint to make us believe he had left. He returned on the 19th with 1,200 men, 600 of which were traitors, and took us by surprise. They remained eight days in the valley, and then went back to Soledad. They shot six unfortunates, viz: Isidoro Martinez, Nicolas Rodriguez, Mateo Ortega, Hijinio Flores, Gregorio Ramirez, and Pedro Melendez. They broke open the doors and sacked all the houses; took all the corn they could find; destroyed all the standing grain; killed all the hogs and chickens in the valley, throwing the offal into the streets and public squares till the smell was intolerable, and threatened an epidemic. They broke into the judge's office, destroyed the archives, threw loose papers into the streets, broke the chairs and benches, and carried off all the arms they could find. They took the image of St. Francis out of the church and fastened it to a pole; they despoiled the Virgin of Sorrows of her finery, and divided it among them; and then laid the body of the saint upon the altar! They killed a servant of Estanislao Camacho, at Virgin ranch, and stole all the cattle in the surrounding pastures. They did the same at the farms of San Juan, Sandia, and Pequeño. It is not known exactly how many cattle were taken, but the rough estimate is 3,000.

The valley is completely ruined, and its inhabitants reduced to the greatest distress. They will have to go elsewhere to find food, as everything was taken or destroyed by the enemy.

The people of San José did not suffer so much, as their visitors did not number more than one hundred French, who made their appearance on the 22d, and were soon repulsed and driven across White river by Captain Camero.

They caught a Spaniard named José Respaldiza, at Bocacil, and made him cut grass for their horses. They carried off Encarnacion Alvarez and Florencio Gonzalez from the valley. They tried to catch Commander Reyna, but he got out of their way.

I send you this despatch from my farm of Joya de los Encinos, where I intend to stay till the enemy makes his appearance.

Accept my respect and high regard.

A. GONZALES.

The Citizen DON MARIANO ESCOBEDO,
Governor and General-in-Chief of the Northern Army.

MAY 30, 1866.

I certify that this is a copy of the original.
Given at Paso del Zacate, on the 5th day of June, 1866.

J. C. DORIA, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 6.]

REPUBLICAN ARMY OF THE NORTH—FREE SQUADRON OF RIO BLANCO—COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

From the enclosed despatch of the chief official of this city, you will see the harm that the bandit Dupin has done here. Every family is in mourning; the house-doors have been broken, and the houses sacked. The people have suffered much; there is no exaggeration; the alcalde's report is true. You could not believe the devastation without seeing it; everything is destroyed, and it is impossible to live here. Higinio Flores was sent to tell the French were coming, when Dupin caught him and had him shot. Isidoro Martinez was sick at home, and Mateo Ortega was not in service; Gregorio Ramirez had a brother in our army; they were all three shot. Nicolas Rodriguez had been ensign, and they murdered him. The other man they murdered was half-witted and nearly blind, yet they had him shot. I cannot sufficiently express my horror at these vile assassinations.

I make this communication for consequent action.

Independence and liberty! Rio Blanco, May 31, 1866.

M. REYNA.

The Citizen MARIANO ESCOBEDO,
General-in-Chief of the Northern Army.

PASO DEL ZACATE, *June* 5, 1866.

I certify the above to be a true copy of the original.

J. C. DORIA, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 7.]

NORTHERN ARMY CORPS—GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

The repeated acts of cruelty and barbarism committed by the invading army, whose leaders have not regarded the laws of war, have compelled our supreme constitutional government to issue various orders and circulars, and, among them, the general order of the 15th of November to the army corps under my command. The substance of that order was that I should observe the same conduct towards their prisoners that the enemy showed to us, and this was

made known to them through some exchanged prisoners. General Douay, commander of the forces that devastated Rio Blanco, Galeana, and Linares, could but know what to expect from men he called bandits, thieves, and robbers if his men were taken prisoners by them. And now the alcalde of Rio Blanco informs me that six men were shot by the French without the least form of trial, though they were unarmed citizens.

Humanity can hardly believe that chiefs of a civilized nation would commit such atrocities under a banner that boasts of the greatest enlightenment in Europe. But, now that Rio Blanco, Galeana, and Iturbide are destroyed, we must obey orders, and retaliate.

Since the enemy desire it, I command you to execute six of the French prisoners now in your hands within three hours after the reception of this despatch, in compliance with this order, and to make the execution known, and the names of the persons executed.

Independence and liberty! Paso del Zacate, June 5, 1866.

M. ESCOBEDO.

General G. TREVIÑO,
Chief of the First Cavalry Division of the Northern Army at Cerralvo.

[Enclosure No. 8.]

Dario Garza, cavalry lieutenant colonel of the republican army, chief of scouts in the northern army, to the citizens of the second district of the State of New Leon and his under officers.

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS: The cut-throats and pirates sent to devastate our unfortunate country by that ambitious tyrant, Napoleon III, under the name of an army, to rob us, murder us, and establish a ridiculous empire, with the scion of a degraded house, no longer conceal their aims.

The destruction of Galeana and San Pedro de Iturbide by Douay, the cruelty of Jeaningros at Allende towards old man Garza Valdez, are facts that speak plainly. Let us prepare to repel force by force, and let us make one more effort to escape his cruel mode of civilization by making victims of us; we prefer death to dishonor and such enlightenment.

Fellow-soldiers, it is your place to chastise his audacity; he will find us always ready to fight, and must acknowledge us worthy defenders of our country. Show him no mercy; give none to his traitor allies; let Mexico struggle for her captured rights, and her name will be respected and admired by the entire universe.

Subordination and discipline, abnegation and patriotism, are the virtues needed to make our enemies tremble at our approach, and repent that they had ever assaulted a free nation.

Let us make one more effort, with faith and confidence, and you may be sure I will be by your side, your companion and friend.

Independence, the supreme national government and the republican army, forever! Toro Ranch, June 8, 1866.

DARIO GARZA.

[Enclosure No. 9.]

The battle of Santa Gertrudis: a victory over the enemy on the 16th of June, 1866.

The glorious victory of the 16th of June, over the traitors at Santa Gertrudis, is one of the most important of this war. If, in a military point of view, it is not so important as that of the 5th of May, no other can be compared to it in political and military consequences. It demoralized the escort of silver from

Monterey to Mier, and caused the surrender of Matamoras. News from the latter place, and intercepted letters, show how complete the demoralization was. There was desertion from the Belgian forces, and their number was so diminished that they were obliged to retreat in haste, not delivering the specie they had in charge.

The surrender of Matamoras, from peculiar circumstances, was an unexpected event. It was certain the place was destined to fall into the hands of the forces fighting at Santa Gertrudis; but it was hardly believed the traitors would evacuate the place when our forces were fifty leagues distant. This shows the great importance of the victory in a moral point of view. There was the greatest disorder among the rebel troops when they left Matamoras; that public opinion, hitherto suppressed by bayonets, was against them.

The victory of Santa Gertrudis, and the consequent evacuation of Matamoras by the traitors, have given a solid basis of operations to the republican army. The immense supplies captured will help to organize a strong army that can carry the war into the interior as soon as Monterey is taken. The possession of Matamoras puts us in communication with the United States, whence the necessary arms and ammunition can be obtained. If we add to this the moral effect of the victory in other parts of the country, we can easily comprehend its importance to our cause. The defenders of the republic have hitherto been represented as disorganized bands of robbers ready to run at the slightest notice; but it is now seen they form a regularly organized army, well disciplined. The late victory is a proof of this; numbering less than the traitors, they attacked them and routed them completely. The enemy had every convenience for defending the convoy, or they would not have started with it.

The elegant discipline of the liberal army is also shown in its conduct just after the victory; the convoy was captured entire, and delivered intact to the commander. That shows the discipline of the republican soldier, and is the best refutation of our enemy's base calumny. They erected gibbets to hang our patriots as robbers.

Before concluding, I must say something about the results of this signal victory. It is not an isolated fact, but the result of mature patriotic deliberations. One year ago all the frontier was under the so-called empire, and those who sympathized with the national cause had to conceal their opinions or suffer the violence of arbitrary power. Yet in those trying times there were men who did not lose all hope. Solitary and alone they rushed into the combat, and contending with every difficulty, they raised armies and marched ahead, inspired by patriotism and the hope of ultimate success. They routed the enemy frequently, and thus commanded respect. The victories of Paso de las Cabras, Santa Isabel, Catorce, and Valle de Purisima are so many laurel crowns upon the temples of the Mexicans who offered themselves a sacrifice to the republic.

Let us trust to our faith in independence as long as there remain such men as fought at Santa Gertrudis. We will not despair in the hour of misfortune, but will encourage the desponding to fight on to the bitter end.

MATAMORAS, 30*th June*, 1866.

EMILIO VELASCO.

[Enclosure No. 10.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—NORTHERN ARMY CORPS—GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

I have the honor to inform you of the splendid republican victory at Santa Gertrudis, gained by my forces over the Austrians and traitors escorting a convoy of goods from Matamoras to Monterey. I had only 1,500 men, with the first Tamaulipas brigade. under Colonel Canales, while the enemy had 2,000. Trust-

ing to superiority of numbers he attacked me in my intrenchments, where I was waiting. He had the advantage of artillery, too. The attack was violent, but my troops were not dismayed in the least; we reserved our fire till the enemy came close, then fired and charged bayonet, driving him back in great confusion.

The victory is complete, and though we have not yet struck our tents, we have picked up more than a thousand muskets and other arms, have captured all the artillery, six field pieces, two mountain pieces, and any quantity of ammunition; leaving more than four hundred killed on the field, most of them Austrians, a great many wounded, and over eight hundred prisoners, two hundred of whom are foreigners. Our loss is only two hundred men killed and wounded. As soon as I can collect the particulars I will make a report of the battle.

I cannot commend any one of my men in particular; all did their duty, fighting like good Mexicans for the honor of the republic and our national independence.

Please communicate this despatch to the supreme magistrate of the nation, and felicitate him, in the name of the army corps of the north and the first Tamaulipas brigade, on this day's brilliant victory of the republic over its foreign enemies.

Independence and liberty! In camp, 16th June, 1866.

M. ESCOBEDO.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE
of the Mexican republic, (wherever he may be.)

CAMARGO, *June* 17, 1866.

A true copy:

J. C. DORIA, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 11.]

Mariano Escobedo, general of the republic and chief of the northern army corps, to the troops that took part in the battle of Santa Gertrudis:

COMPANIONS IN ARMS: The national arms are once more crowned with glory; your forced marches and untold hardships have not been useless, for the Austrians and traitors, though superior to you in numbers, have been forced to succumb to your courage and resolution. You have brought the usurper's Austrian mercenaries to your feet to implore your clemency, and you, fierce in combat but generous in victory, like true soldiers of the republic, have been merciful to them. The men that appeared so mighty in your front not long ago exist no more; those not killed are wounded and prisoners; a few officers escaped, but their flags and treasures remain in our hands. Their chiefs, miserable cowards, had not the courage to brave death on the field of battle, but trusted their lives and safety to the fleetness of their horses.

Fellow soldiers, the invaded republic confides its salvation to the courage of its children, and I am sure they will protect it or perish in the attempt. One year ago we were fighting without resources, almost without hope, with nothing but our patriotism to sustain us, yet our faith in the national cause never wavered; now that the northern army is everywhere victorious, who will dare to oppose it? Let us hasten onward, fellow soldiers, and capture Matamoras; then we can have time to rest. We will leave a guard to protect our rear, and then Monterey and Saltillo will soon be ours; the frontier will be freed from the odious presence of the invaders and their accomplices; we will carry the war into the interior of the republic, and help our brothers to fight till our soil is rid of the slaves of Napoleon the Third. You know, fellow soldiers, we have always respected the law and the customs of society; go on, as you have done up to this

time, battling with the enemy and protecting peaceful citizens, and our cause will surely triumph in the end. Then you can settle down quietly with your families, and hold up your head in pride at having done your duty, fighting for national independence and the honor of the republic.

CAMP AT SANTA GERTRUDIS, 16*th June*, 1866.

M. ESCOBEDO.

[Enclosure No. 12.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—NORTHERN ARMY CORPS—GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

According to my promise on the 16th, I have the honor to give a complete report of the battle of Santa Gertrudis, which you will communicate to the citizen President.

I had already fixed my headquarters at Linares, when I was informed that the enemy from Matamoras and Monterey had united to protect a convoy of merchandise and specie between the two cities. Without knowing whether to credit the report or not, I took the necessary precautions of stationing a division of infantry at China, the second cavalry brigade at Paso del Zacate, and the first brigade between Monterey and Ceralvo. To cut off re-enforcements for the French column that had left Monterey, I ordered Colonel Pedro Martinez to threaten Saltillo with 300 cavalry, assisted by the governor of Coahuila with his available force, while Lieutenant Colonel Antonio Garcia should watch every entrance to Monterey, and prevent any communication.

When my forces were thus stationed, I learned that 1,500 French and 500 traitors had left Monterey on the 7th. This report was soon confirmed by General Geronimo Treviño, who was watching them, and annoying them in every possible way, blocking up the road, filling the wells and springs, and using every legal strategy to harass an enemy. In the mean time I was expecting to hear of the enemy coming out of Matamoras as an escort to a caravan of goods for Monterey; but Colonel Canales, who was on the lookout, could obtain no such information. I then determined to march out to meet the French, which I did on the 9th, stopping the first night at Aldamas. On the 10th I came within ten leagues of Ceralvo, where I remained the 10th and 12th, watching the enemy. The French got to Ceralvo on the 12th, and I learned from a captured messenger from Mejia to De Tucé, that they would not leave there till they heard the convoy had got to Mier. For this reason I changed my plan of operations, and by forced marches reached Santa Gertrudis, three leagues from the enemy, on the 15th. Knowing the enemy would be obliged to advance, as there was not enough water for his 2,000 mules, I prepared for battle in the following manner: I divided my forces into five columns for attack, and one for reserve. Colonels J. A. Flores and Luis G. Caceres, over the 1st infantry column of 250 men, with the 1st brigade. The second column, of the same number of men, was commanded by Colonels Miguel Palacios and Edelmiro Mayer. The third, of 300 men, by Colonels Francisco Naranjo and Adolpho Garza. Fourth, the Tamaulipas brigade, of 300 rifles, under Servando Canales and Julian Cerda, with two columns of cavalry. Fifth, composed of the northern legion, under Joaquin Garza Leal, and the Lampazos explorers, under Juan N. Saenz and Higinio Villareal, all under the command of General Geronimo Treviño. The reserve of 300 men, sappers, sharpshooters, and riflemen of the Rio Grande, was commanded by Colonel Salvador F. de la Cavada and Lieutenant Colonel Vicente Mariscal.

Thus divided, the columns were sent into the field to await the enemy, who soon appeared, leaving his baggage in the rear. On the 16th, at six in the morning, the enemy opened upon us with his cannon, while the infantry con-

tinued to advance slowly. My orders were implicitly obeyed; the men lay flat on the ground, the cavalry concealed in a thicket of trees. The enemy continued to advance till he got within rifle-shot of our lines, when I ordered my men to charge. This was done bravely; the infantry continued to advance, till both armies had to combat with side-arms. The enemy feigned an attack on our left with two infantry columns, and attempted to surround us. At this moment I ordered the cavalry to charge, and General Treviño made a bold assault on the right. This was so successful that the enemy was completely flanked on the left. The combat with side-arms was of short duration, having ended at seven in the morning, with the complete destruction of the austrio-traitor forces.

I enclose a report of the killed and wounded (No. 1) on both sides, and of the prisoners we have taken. No. 2 is a list of artillery, arms, &c., taken from the enemy. No. 3 is a list of the prisoners. The traitors are not included, because they are incorporated into our ranks. No. 4 is a general sketch of the battle.

I cannot make particular recommendations, because, as I said, every man did his duty. Convinced of the justice of the cause, our soldiers had no doubt of victory, and marched forward certain of success. During the combat there were many personal encounters worthy of the greatest admiration.

As a consequence of this glorious triumph of the national cause, the garrison in Matamoras is thrown into the greatest confusion, and, to take advantage of it, I will march upon the place to-morrow, hoping to be able to give you an early account of my expedition.

Before concluding I must praise this army under my command for its excellent conduct and discipline, and recommend it to the notice of the citizen President of the republic, with whom I rejoice at this signal triumph of our glorious cause.

Independence and liberty! Camargo, June 19, 1866.

M. ESCOBEDO.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE
of the Mexican Republic, (wherever he may be.)

CAMARGO, *June* 20, 1866.

A true copy:

F. C. DORIA, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 13.]

No. 1.

NORTHERN ARMY CORPS—HEADQUARTERS.

List of killed, wounded, and prisoners at the battle of Santa Gertrudis, on the 16th of June, 1866.

KILLED.

The loss in the republican forces was 1 colonel, 1 commander, 9 lieutenants, 17 sergeants, 23 corporals, and 104 soldiers—making a total of 155.

Killed of the traitors: 1 lieutenant colonel, 2 commanders, 9 captains, 12 lieutenants, and 227 soldiers—a total of 251.

The Austrians lost 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and 142 soldiers—total, 145.

A total in both armies killed, 551.

WOUNDED.

Of the republicans: 2 commanders, 1 lieutenant, 4 sergeants, 14 corporals, and 57 soldiers—total, 78.

Traitors wounded: 2 commanders, 11 sergeants, 29 corporals, and 79 soldiers—making a total of 121.

Austrians wounded: 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 1 sergeant, 7 corporals, and 33 soldiers—a total of 44.

Number of wounded in both armies, 243.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

Of the traitors: 1 lieutenant colonel, 1 commander, 5 captains, 20 lieutenants, 51 sergeants, 57 corporals, and 723 soldiers—a total of 858.

Austrian prisoners: 1 captain, 5 lieutenants, 9 sergeants, 8 corporals, and 120 soldiers—total, 143.

Prisoners in all, 1,001.

CAMP AT CAMARGO, *June* 17, 1866.

SOSTENES ROCHA.

CAMARGO, *June* 17 1866.

A certified copy:

F. C. DORIA, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 14.]

No. 2.

List of artillery and ammunition, tools, arms, gun-carriages, cartridge-boxes, &c., taken from the enemy at the battle of the 16*th of June*, 1866.

CANNON AND HOWITZERS.

24-pounder howitzer, mounted and in good order	1
One 8-pounder, in same condition	1
Four rifled cannon do	4
Two rifled cannon, Prussian make, not mounted	2
Making a total of eight pieces	8

GUN-CARRIAGES.

For battery	3
For ammunition	2
Total	5

TOOLS AND ARMS.

Swabs, with shaft and ramrod for 8-pounders	8
Directing levers for same	8
Swabs for 24-pounder howitzers, and ramrod	2
Directing levers for same	6
Field buckets	6
Ammunition sacks	6
Cartridge-boxes	6
Punches	12
Housings	12
Spare lances, (one unarmed)	2

ARTILLERY AMMUNITION.

Shells for 24-pounder howitzers	11
Grape shot for same	20
Round shot for 8-pounders	20
Grape for same	16
Shells for rifled cannon, 4-pounders	420
Solid shot for same	60
Grape for same	80
Patent fuze	

INFANTRY ARMS.

Musket cartridges	12,000
Austrian rifle cartridges	13,000
Percussion caps	30,000

ARMS.

Percussion and Mississippi rifles	930
Bayonets for same	275
Bayonets without rings	280
Austrian rifles (calibre not known)	266
Slings for same	250
Lances with pennants	38
Sabres	54

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Infantry cornets	25
Infantry cornets, Austrian make	3
Clarionets	3
Bass drums	3

SOSTENES ROCHA.

CAMP AT CAMARGO, *June* 17, 1866.

CAMARGO, *June* 17, 1866.

A certified copy:

F. C. DORIA, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 15.]

No. 3.

List of prisoners taken on the 16*th of June*, 1866.

Salvador Iglesias, lieutenant colonel of the cazadores de Queretero, a native of Mexico, (Yucatan;) Manuel Lozada, commander of battalion, same corps, Mexican; Mauricio Medelin, retired, New Leon; Augustin Gordillo, belonging to the engineer corps, native of Spain; Juan Gomez Calcerrada, captain in the infantry corps, Spaniard; Andres Pichardo, of Guanajuata; Benito Barcenas, captain, Mexican; Francisco Alvaredo, captain, Mexican; Romulo Amarillas, captain, Mexican; Paulino Valderas, adjutant, Spain; Pedro Ceavez, adjutant, Spain; Jesus Garcia, lieutenant, Jalisco; Ramon Saavedra, lieutenant, Guanajuata; José Lara, lieutenant, Spain; Francisco Velazquez, second lieutenant, Mexico; Pedro Rosas, second lieutenant, Mexico; Felipe Rivera, second lieutenant, Mexico; Desideris Saldaña, second lieutenant, Mexico; Hipolito Varte, second lieutenant, Mexico; Pioquinto Estrada, second lieutenant, Mexico; Toribio Garcia, second lieutenant, Mexico; Prisciliano Torres, second lieuten-

ant, Mexico; Vicente Martinez, second lieutenant, Mexico; Santiago Gandara, second lieutenant, Mexico; Lorenzo Perez, second lieutenant, Mexico; Antonio Hernandez, ensign, Mexico; Simon Rodriguez, ensign, Mexico; Vicente Lopez, ensign, Mexico; Dario Martinez, ensign, Mexico.

Austrian officers and soldiers.

Captain Federico Ludozice, cazador, Austria; Santiago S. Roue, cazador, Poland; Antonio Adam, cazador, Austria; Felipe Saber, cazador, Germany; Francisco Bittner, cazador, Austria; Carlos Schmidt, cazador, Bohemia; Miguel Ralmutti, cazador, Austria; Julio Voit, cavalry, Austria; Luis Bernee, cavalry, Austria; Luis Snatzochina, artillery, Austria; Carlos Gobet, artillery, Austria; José Holfeld, cazador, Austria; Francisco Gottluher, cazador, Austria; Simon Vervucobit, cazador, Austria; Ugo Prohasha, cazador, Austria; Ferdinand Herhti, cazador, Austria; Manuel Edelsbacher, artillery, Austria; Eduardo Hassold, artillery, Austria; José Jacober, artillery soldier, Austria; Juan Waldshutz, artillery soldier; Wenzel Fuchs, artillery soldier; Matias Mihula, artillery soldier; José Sroco, artillery soldier; Juan Kudjic, artillery soldier; Francisco Krebinski, artillery soldier; Antonio Calli, artillery soldier; Miguel Barofs, artillery soldier; Ferdinand Garofs, artillery soldier; Francisco Pehafez, artillery soldier; Juan Roll, artillery soldier; Julio Remph, artillery soldier; José Gasigag, artillery soldier; José Pitez, artillery soldier; Longinos Lohez, artillery soldier; Mauricio Watez, artillery soldier; Antonio Rofset, artillery soldier, Austria; Juan Bradt, artillery soldier; Francisco Joseht, artillery soldier; Martin Hlict, artillery soldier; Gregor Baron, artillery soldier; Manuel Edelsbacher, corporal, Austria; Eduardo Haisold, José Rusff, Sustar Knie, Ferdinand Fogu, Heinrich Muller, Carlos Pipink, August Moluar, Alexander Baumkirchner, soldier; Ferdinand Maurfer, soldier; Franz Eckert, soldier; Frederick Schonberger, soldier; Carlos Roster, soldier; José Gufo, soldier; Miguel Schoeffer, soldier; Juan Woneck, soldier; Carlo Michalka, soldier; Carlo Norback, soldier; Miguel Genmeides, soldier; Antonio Koniak, soldier; Juan Servoboda, soldier, Austria; Francisco Tra, Matias Garbuski, Francisco Silz, Antonio Anderuhuka, José Rofiner, Carlo Grifiler, Matis Cealik, Andres Sevak, Miguel Zokrzenoski, Josfi Tellenak, José Metnez, Ignacio Schantaker, Francisco Tiviher, Francisco Koih, Leopold Jolf, Francisco Fuhzer, Francisco Hora, Francisco Krirvoruk, José Levada, Ignacio Dobrogoloki, Anton Kaltenbik, Vincenz Kautzki, Anton Klutz, Juan Silmids, Francisco Barenbank, Tomas Antomillo, José Cirigatti, Dominick Sartori, José Bekars, José Paradiso, Benjamin Fosalusa, Francisco Herdina, Andres Schussner, Juan Wenderslads, Luis Gmeindl, José Remes, José Erotka, Dionio Tavan, Alvert Crefmer, Antonio Grill, Julio Wetzelhofer, José Kula, Matias Doehnal, Francisco Goldriech, Pedro Kautzer, Jacobo Reger, José Chodera, Francisco Flugler, Juan Bachaiz, Juan Womiak, Casparo Potroni, Juan Moos, Juan Haure, Antonio Bolondez, Franz Bagaiz, José Ruspinetz, Juan Kerosine, Francisco Hadaie, Auguit St. Poul, José Homser, José Sergety, Eugen Gnet, Andre Alseuasik, Antonio Uretsehez, Wenzel Greezi, Alveit Golenz, Martin Schiffler, Gustav Hajek, Miguel Benveld, Jacobol Anisehka, Anton Mesaco, Stefan Balogh, Georfe Strebel, Jose Miklovich, Juan Abraham, Jose Schemisser, Juan Rifsko, Moaio Janisikek, Joseph Kopza, Juan Komarizin, José Steiner, Wenzel Schimek, Carl Koristek, Anton Ruselhuba, Humuch Burga, Josef Fidler, Ferdinand Bernam, José Soasihet, Juan Tillioly, José Oatterte, José Snuts, José Molier, Jofs Rots, José Maria Borell, Alejandro Almidu, Francisco Slama, Eduardo Langer, Stanislao Szeredinzy, Julio Rauch, Francisco Zach, Augusto Langenman, Francisco Turner, Leon V. Vorea, José Gamirosei, Paulo Palue, Francisco Hlumisei, Vincenzia Dreblich, Francisco Urban, Antonio Paulich, Antonio Krans, Vincenzia Glos, Antonio Dosranea, José Kobre, Miguel Losei, Jacobo Flux, Matias Gafsner, José Cami-

davo, Wenzl Trief, Francisco Geppert, Paulo Wancho, Venxl Hersehmam, Francisco Tabik, Federico Bartha, Hose Renner, Bartolome Mialea, Francisco Neulinger, Miguel Zupro, Macsimilan Cservenka, Francisco Horvalh, Matias Baumearmer, Juan Duhzek, Francisco Szabo, Juan Berger, Antonio Pehgar.

CAMP AT CAMARGO, *June* 17, 1866.

SOSTENES ROCHA.

CAMARGO, *June*, 17 1866.

A certified copy:

F. C. DORIA, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 16.]

Agreement for the surrender of Matamoras.

In the heroic city of Matamoras, on this twenty-second day of June, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, at a meeting of citizen General D. Thomas Mejia and a commission of the people, consisting of Señors D. Augustin Mencheaca, D. Juan Prado, and D. Antonio de la Garza Chapa, of the first part, and citizen General D. Juan de la Garza, acting under the authority and in accordance with the instructions of the citizen governor and military commandante of Tamaupilas, General José M. J. Carvajal, for the purpose of treating for the surrender of the plaza, after the usual formalities, agreed upon the terms contained in the following articles:

ARTICLE 1. General Mejia is to deliver up the plaza of Matamoras within forty-eight hours to the citizen General Juan de la Garza, commanding the division operating against Matamoras.

ART. 2. The reception of the plaza will be according to the usual formalities, including the forces and armament of the plaza.

ART. 3. General Mejia shall be permitted to withdraw with the troops of his division unmolested by the road to Bagdad, with two rounds of ammunition.

ART. 4. The lives, property, and interests of the citizens are guaranteed, and they shall not be molested for their previous political conduct or opinions.

ART. 5. The government of the State reserves the right to investigate the conduct of those who have taken the more prominent part against it, for the satisfaction of public justice.

For the enforcement and carrying out of the foregoing agreement, we hereby sign in triplicate.

THOMAS MEJIA.
JUAN PRADO.
ANTONIO DE LA GARZA CHAPA.
ARGOSTIN MENCHACA.
JUAN JOSÉ DE LA GARZA.

Ratified at general headquarters, Ranchito, June 23, 1866—three o'clock a.m.

CARVAJAL.

[Enclosure No. 17.]

The general of division José Maria J. Carvajal, governor and military commandant of the State of Tamaulipas, to its inhabitants:

FELLOW CITIZENS: The city of Matamoras is free from the oppression imposed on it by the force of the invader, and republican rule is once more established therein. The enemy, convinced that he had not the support of the public, has delivered the plaza into our hands. This success is the prelude to the com-

plete triumph of the national independence on this frontier, and will in due time lead to carrying the war into the interior of the republic for the defence of our brothers.

To this end all patriots would contribute. The country requires sacrifices from her sons. All good Mexicans, though they may have been divided by dissensions and revolutions, can meet under the national banner.

Citizens, I solicit your concurrence. My chief desire is to sustain the cause of independence, receiving all of its faithful defenders, without distinction of party, that we may show ourselves worthy of liberty, that we may maintain unity, and that previous dissensions may be forgotten.

To this end I shall make war solely against the French and the traitors. The inoffensive people shall have the amplest guarantees, and my firm determination is to respect all persons and property in conformity to the law of nations. Confident that my patriotic intentions are appreciated, I expect the aid of the people, that a complete triumph may be attained. The support of the people will be all-sufficient to enable me to combat the enemy, and confident in that support, I shall not hesitate in making the greatest sacrifices.

JOSÉ M. J. CARVAJAL.

HEADQUARTERS AT RANCHITO, *June* 23, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 18.]

PROCLAMATION OF GENERAL GARZA.

The citizen Juan José de la Garza, chief of the first division of Tamaulipas, and provisional commandant of the city, to its inhabitants:

FELLOW-CITIZENS: My taking military command of the city has been for the purpose of protecting the citizens in their life and property. Exemplary punishment will follow any disorder, without distinction of person, for it is not private individuals, but the competent authorities, that are the judges of the proper course of procedure.

All enjoy the guarantees which the law allows, and in no way shall these be violated. Far from this, I shall endeavor to re-establish confidence, and the efforts of all good Mexicans should be directed to the same end, and the salvation of our independence. Without the first the second is impossible. Mexicans, the epoch of our regeneration begins; union under the banner of Fidalgo, war upon the French and traitors, the triumphs of our independence and nationality, are the ends which we should have in view.

The frontier at all times has been the constant defender of liberty. Her sons gained the glorious battle of Santa Gertrudis; a wide field is open to us to fight for our nation's cause; patriotic Mexicans will not recede from their undertaking. To participate in the glories and dangers is the highest wish of your companion and friend,

JUAN J. DE LA GARZA.

No. 81.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 8, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 1st instant, containing an interesting account of the military operations in

Mexico from the beginning of April to the end of June of this year, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 82.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, November 27, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, the documents mentioned in the annexed index, mostly taken from the official paper of the government of the Mexican republic, and containing chiefly official reports of military operations in the northern military division of the Mexican republic, from June to September of the present year.

I avail myself of this favorable occasion to repeat to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Index of documents sent by the Mexican legation in Washington to the Department of State of the United States, with the note of this date, relating to the military operations of the northern army of the Mexican republic from June to September, 1866.

No.	Date.	Contents.
	1866.	
1	June 29	Official report of General Escobedo to the minister of war, in relation to the capitulation of Matamoras made between General Carvajal and Tomas Mejia.
2	June 25	Opinion of the quartermaster general of the army of the north on said capitulation.
3	June 29	Text of the capitulation.
4	Aug. 4	The minister of war to General Escobedo, informing him that the government disapproves of the capitulation agreed upon between General Carvajal and Don Tomas Mejia, and ordering General Carvajal to be tried by court-martial.
5	Aug. 7	The appointment of General Tapia as governor of the State of Tamaulipas.
6	Aug. 26	General Tapia to the minister of war, accepting the office.
7	Aug. 12	An act drawn up in Matamoras rejecting General Carvajal as governor and making Colonel Canales governor for the time being.
8	Aug. 13	Proclamation of Colonel Canales.
9	Sept. 12	The minister of war informs General Tapia that the government disapproves of the events that occurred in Matamoras on the 12th.
10	Aug. 13	Colonel Canales to the minister of relations, communicating to him all that happened in Matamoras on the day of the 12th.
11	Oct. 2	Reply of the minister of relations to the preceding.
12	Aug. 12	Colonel Canales communicates the events of the 12th to the minister of war.
13	Oct. 2	The minister of war's reply to Colonel Canales's note.
14	Aug. 13	Colonel Canales communicates the capitulation of Tampico to the minister of war.

Index of documents sent by the Mexican legation, &c.—Continued.

No.	Date.	Contents.
	1866.	
15	Aug. 13	Text of the capitulation.
16	Oct. 2	The minister of war informs the governor of Tamaulipas that the capitulation is approved, with certain restrictions.
17	Aug. 22	Tampico correspondence, giving details of the political situation of that port.
18	Aug. 8	Official report of General Arce on the occupation of the city of Nazas, in the State of Durango.
19	Aug. 16	Reply of the minister of war to the above despatch.
20	Aug. 5	Official report of General Escobedo to the minister of war on the occupation of the cities of Monterey and Saltillo by the forces under his command.
21	Aug. 28	The minister of war's reply to the above despatch.
22	Aug. 8	General Escobedo's proclamation.
23	Aug. 8	Official report of General Viezca on the occupation of the city of Saltillo, the capital of the State of Coahuila.
24	Aug. 21	Reply of the minister of war.
25	Aug. 8	Letter of General Viesca to the President of the republic, on the submission of the traitors Quiroga and Campos.

IGNO. MARISCAL.

WASHINGTON, *November* 27, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—NORTHERN ARMY CORPS.

By the enclosed documents you will hear of the capitulation of the traitor Tomas Mejia to General Juan José de la Garza, and the terms of the same, together with the remarks of the quartermaster general of the army under my command on that subject.

When I reached this place, citizen minister, I could have annulled the stipulations between the traitor Mejia and General Garza, as the latter had no power to negotiate with a traitor who had done so much harm to the nation; but I wanted to confine myself to the chief duty of making war on the enemies of my country, and for that reason I wrote to the governor general that I was displeased with the act, for General Garza and Carvajal came from abroad to Mexico, and had no right to let Mejia off, helping him away and securing him from danger; therefore I protest, in the name of the army of the north and of the supreme government, against the offence.

If General Garza and Carvajal had not contributed to Mejia's evasion, he might have got away alone, without a soldier, for I was marching upon the town; now he can go on with the war, and the blood of our soldiers, shed on the battle-field in defence of their country, will be sterile in its results. In fine, citizen minister, when the traitor Mejia was in a bad fix, after the glorious victory of Santa Gertrudis, two Mexican generals, living in the United States of the north, went over into Mexico and assisted him to get away. Let me call your particular attention to this fact, and ask you to make it known to the President of the republic that he may decide upon it.

Independence and liberty! Port of Matamoras, June 29, 1866.

M. ESCOBEDO

THE MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE
of the Mexican republic, (wherever he may be.)

[Enclosure No. 2.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC, ARMY CORPS OF THE NORTH—GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

General Santiago Tapia, quartermaster of the army of the north, reports to me on the 25th as follows:

"Remarks on the terms of capitulation between General Juan José de la Garza and the traitor Mejia, addressed by the quartermaster of the army of the north to the general-in-chief of the same:

"CITIZEN GENERAL: The undersigned, believing it to be of great importance for the political future of the country—the capitulation made by the traitor Mejia to General Juan J. de la Garza has reflected upon it seriously—and taking it in a military point of view as well as political, patriotic, and humanitarian, expresses his opinion, supported by the justice and testimony of his own conscience, regretting that his limited capacity does not allow him to do full justice to the subject.

"The citizen General Garza, in communicating with the enemy, did not act according to the precepts of military law, for he was in a foreign country without forces to threaten Matamoras, and was in no condition where the laws of war permit a capitulation like this which we are discussing. Moreover, as your army was near the before-mentioned place and had just gained a victory, and was on the way with ample elements to destroy the enemy that garrisoned Matamoras; and as the affair of Santa Gertrudis had caused a panic, and the enemy was far from aid, among hostile people, and did not even trust their officers and chiefs, it was General Garza's duty to let you decide upon the proposals made by the traitor Mejia.

"It is certain the place could have been occupied without conditions, for I am sure you would not have compromised with the traitors, but would have executed our laws upon them.

"Considering these circumstances, the citizen General Garcia ought not to have interfered, but should have delivered the enemy up to the chiefs who are sustaining the rights of their country by force of arms. Now, taking into consideration the power citizen General Garcia was supposed to have to act in the manner he did, it may be observed he forgot in a lamentable manner that General Carvajal, being abroad, had no rights of any kind in the political or military affairs of our country, and therefore could not legally accept any obligation, or assent to any act that did not benefit the country.

"If those citizens had wanted to do a positive service to the country, they might have collected what forces they could around Matamoras, and annoyed the enemy, even at a distance, and prevented his escape by land. But instead of that, General Garza allowed Mejia to triumph unexpectedly by getting off with his troops, arms and ammunition; and so the traitor escaped, and will probably go to Maximilian and make him believe it was by strategy he got away, instead of by an error of General Garza and his aids.

"In this case positive advantages were sacrificed for the pleasure of holding Matamoras a few days, greatly to the national injury; and Garza violated the laws of war by granting honors to traitors, that should only be granted to loyal and worthy enemies. I will not analyze General Garza's conduct in hastening the capitulation mentioned, because I think him incapable of wishing to appropriate to himself the honors of a victory gained by others, and where he was not even present; but I regret his treatment of an enemy undeserving the rights of war.

"The political aspect of the capitulation contains ruinous principles, those of leaving criminals unpunished, when the laws of the country are strictly applicable to the traitorous offenders.

"The pardon of Mejia will encourage traitors, and destroy all political morality

and hereafter any one may trample on the laws with impunity. If traitors are thus permitted to treat with loyal leaders, and all adherents of the empire are traitors, it establishes a fatal precedent that will do great injury to the country, leave traitors unpunished, and allow any one to scoff at national justice.

"It is demonstrated that in wars like the one we are now waging, all nations adopt a fixed policy towards foreign enemies and invaders, and traitors who aid them; and these principles or that policy have not been observed in Mejia's capitulation, for he and his contemptible adherents ought to have forfeited their lives upon the scaffold. The enemies of our country attribute to the republican party all sorts of mean aspirations, and say we are acting to gratify exaggerated passion; but does such lenity prove it? Fortunately for the good name of Mexico, frequent acts of abnegation and endurance, united to the greatest unselfishness and sacrifices of large fortunes as well as private interests, dear to the heart of man, have been offered as a holocaust by our brothers upon the altars of the country, and they refute all those truthless and undeserved assertions.

"Reflecting on the strange way in which Matamoras was occupied, I have sometimes thought the authors of the plan believed they were acting humanely in compromising with the traitors and not shedding their blood, when they were in a very perilous position, not considering that Mejia with those resources in his hands now, with perfect liberty to use them by virtue of the treaty of capitulation, may cause the ruin of numberless families; for his ferocious nature will impel him to dash upon the friends of those who spared his life, with more bitterness than ever; and in a few days he will begin operations in the direction of Tampico, on the forces of the patriotic Colonel Ascencion Gomez, and then the nation, the mothers, widows and orphans, who are mourning the loss of dear relatives and cherished friends, will curse those who are truly to blame for the calamities.

"I have here given my opinion with the frankness that characterizes me, and in compliance with my duty on accepting the place of quartermaster of your army, to be useful to my country in every way, and to speak to you loyally whenever circumstances require it, and when my silence might compromise me before my fellow-citizens. Therefore it is my duty, as general of the republic and quartermaster of this army, to say to you that I deem the honor of the nation insulted if you do not protest against and make void the strange and pernicious capitulation made by General Garza and others, since it benefited Mejia and not Mexico, helping the traitors, and thus criminating themselves as aiders and abettors of treason, that threatens to overthrow our national independence.

"To prevent the republic and other nations that regard us from supposing us to be accomplices, through false prudence, of a crime that tarnishes the honor of the country, violates the laws and encourages our enemies, forgetting or disregarding the respect due to the supreme authority, we ought, with all the energy of reason, justice, and right, protest, as I recommended you, against the said capitulation. Notwithstanding the reasons I have given, on examining them, I am sure you will act as your political conscience dictates, directed by the responsibility that hangs over you as general-in-chief of an army corps in the field, and in accordance with the general ordinances of that army.

"Independence and liberty! Matamoras, June 25, 1866.

"SANTIAGO TAPIA."

This I communicate to you for your information and communication to the citizen President of the republic.

Independence and liberty! Port of Matamoras, June 29, 1866.

M. ESCOBEDO.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE
of the Mexican Republic, (wherever he may be.)

[Enclosure No. 3.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—NORTHERN ARMY CORPS—SEAL.

In the heroic city of Matamoras, on June 22, 1866, appeared General Don Tomas Mejia, on the one part, and the city commissioners, Messrs. Augustin Menchaca, Juan Prado and Antonio de la Garza Chapa, and on the other, General Juan José de la Garza, authorized by the governor of Tamaulipas, General José M. J. Carvajal, to treat about the surrender of the town, under certain conditions, who agreed upon the basis contained in the following articles:

ARTICLE 1. General Mejia delivers the town of Matamoras, within forty-eight hours, to General Juan José de la Garza, chief of the Tamaulipas division, now operating on Matamoras.

ARTICLE 2. The reception of the town will be in accordance with the usual formalities, and in respect to the condition of the forces, armament, &c.

ARTICLE 3. General Mejia is allowed to withdraw the rest of his division, with arms and two rounds for each man, on the Bagdad road, without molestation by the liberal forces.

ARTICLE 4. The inhabitants shall be guaranteed in their lives, property, and general interests, without prosecution, directly or indirectly, or molestation for former political opinions or conduct.

ARTICLE 5. The State government reserves the right of trying the principal persons whose conduct needs investigation for public vindication.

And as proof, and for subsequent effect, the present is signed in duplicate.

THOMAS MEJIA.
JUAN PRADO.
AUGUSTIN MENCHACA.
ANTONIO DE LA GARZA CHAPA.
JUAN JOSÉ DE LA GARZA.

I ratify the above.

CARVAJAL.

HEADQUARTERS AT RANCHITO, *June* 23, 1866—3 a. m.

A certified copy of the original.

EMILIO VELASCO, *Secretary.*

RANCHITO, *June* 23, 1866.

I certify to this copy.

F. C. DORIA, *Secretary.*

MATAMORAS, *June* 29, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE—OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

With this date, I say to the citizen general of division, José M. J. Caravajal, governor and military commander of the State of Tamaulipas, as follows:

"In a communication from the citizen general-in-chief of the northern army corps, dated at Matamoras the 29th June, to which is annexed a copy of the capitulation made by you, through your commissioner, Juan José de la Garza, with Tomas Mejia, chief of the garrison of that town, the citizen President of the republic has learned that when the enemy was routed at Santa Gertrudis, and all alive were taken prisoners, leaving their artillery in our hands, with the arms, ammunition, and a quantity of goods, to the terror of the small garrison of Matamoras, on which the victorious forces were marching, you, just arrived in Tamaulipas from the United States, instead of collecting troops to prevent the escape of the traitors, entered into negotiations with them and helped them

to escape with the honors of war, and giving them guarantees that only the supreme government could grant.

"The citizen President cannot understand the reason you had for acting in that manner, making a treaty with the enemy when you had no forces to compel him to it, and General Escobedo was advancing on Matamoras by forced marches. Therefore it has been determined to decree as follows:

"First. The capitulation made by you on the 22d of June, through your commissioner, Juan José de la Garza, with Don Tomas Mejia, chief of the Matamoras garrison, is hereby declared null and of no force, because those who made it on the part of the republican government had not the proper authority.

"Second. Therefore, both you and Juan José de la Garza, who are responsible for the act, shall be subject to trial, you answering for the capitulation, and Juan José de la Garza, in part for same, and for other misconduct during this war, which I communicate to you by order of the citizen President for your information, and that you may issue the necessary orders for the execution of the above decrees"

I transcribe this to you, for your information, in reply to your note of the 29th June, enclosing the opinion of the quartermaster general of the army corps on the subject.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, August 4, 1866.

MEJIA.

General MARIANO ESCOBEDO.
Chief of the Northern Army Corps, (wherever he may be.)

[Enclosure No. 5.]

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT—GOVERNMENT BRANCH, SECTION FIRST.

Trusting to your patriotism, and as a reward for your services, the citizen President of the republic has been pleased to appoint you governor of the State of Tamaulipas. I send you instructions in another paper, ordering you to repair to that territory without delay, to begin the duties of your office. I enclose this despatch to citizen General José M. de J. Carvajal, former governor of that State, for his instruction.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, August 7, 1866.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

Citizen General SANTIAGO TAPIA,
Governor of the State of Tamaulipas.

[Enclosure No. 6.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—NATIONAL ARMY—GENERAL OF BRIGADE.

CITIZEN MINISTER: I learn with pleasure from your note of the 7th instant of the appointment of myself as governor of the State of Tamaulipas, by the chief magistrate of the republic.

I accept the office, but I must say that I do it because the State is in trouble in every branch of its administration, physical, moral, political, and military.

Be pleased to express my thanks to the President for the confidence he has shown for me in giving me the office.

Liberty and independence! Monterey, August 26, 1866.

SANTIAGO TAPIA.

The CITIZEN MINISTER OF RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT,
Chihuahua.

[Enclosure No. 7.]

An act drawn up by the garrison of this town.

In the town of Matamoras de Tamaulipas, on the 12th of August, 1866, its garrison assembled, composed of the following brigades and corps: Hinojosa brigade, first cavalry corps, first Tamaulipas battalion, second Tamaulipas battalion, Bravo shooters, Canales brigade, government escort, supreme power corps, Tamaulipas guides, mountain riflemen, Camargo squadron, Guerrero squadron, exploring corps, loyal Tamaulipans, Burgos loyals, Vera rangers, reform battalion, artillery battalion, Bravo lancers, and exploring volunteers.

Considering that citizen José Maria Jesus Carvajal, acting governor and military commander of the State, is not fit to govern it under present circumstances, because he does not pay the garrison, and makes no effort to do so;

Considering that the money contributed by the city has been uselessly wasted, to the neglect of the soldiers' wants;

Considering that citizen Carvajal's political progress has been feeble and indecisive, when in these times it should be strong and resolute;

Considering the small influence citizen Carvajal has over the garrison and the inhabitants of this city, he should not remain in power;

Considering that if violent and energetic means are not resorted to, greater evils may result;

Considering, finally, it is the duty of this garrison to stop this ruinous imposition, the chiefs, officers, and soldiers of said garrison have resolved:

1. To reject and depose citizen José M. J. Carvajal as governor and military commander of the State of Tamaulipas; 2. To make Colonel Servando Canales governor and military commander of the State, for his services to the national cause, and from the confidence we have in him; 3. That citizen Benito Juarez, constitutional President of the Mexican republic, be informed of this gubernatorial change in the State, and the reasons for it, while we declare our fidelity to all decrees and orders emanating from the supreme government of the nation; 4. That Colonel Servando Canales be informed of these resolutions, that he may assume the duties of said office in this State.

PEDRO HINOJOSA.
General of the First Brigade.

The other signatures follow.

[Enclosure No. 8.]

SERVANDO CANALES, CAVALRY COLONEL IN THE REPUBLICAN ARMY, GOVERNOR AND MILITARY COMMANDER OF THE STATE OF TAMAULIPAS.

FELLOW-CITIZENS: Yesterday you witnessed a military movement that deposed General José M. J. Carvajal from the office of civil and military governor of the State. You know the reasons of that act: a general dissatisfaction prevailed among the people, and there was no other remedy. Fortunately there was no blood shed, and not a gun fired. It was the best way to express the will of the garrison.

By your vote, and the will of my companions in arms, I am now doing the duty as civil and military governor of the State, which office I have accepted in pure gratitude to your confidence, and to prevent a headless government from going to destruction.

I am aware of the dangers of the present crisis, and if I dare to brave them, it is with purest intentions to see my country free and happy.

Fellow citizens: my government hoists the standard of independence and liberty, symbolized by the most holy principles of union and fraternity. I solicit and expect the aid of all the citizens of this State. I will hear the counsel of all, as humanity is apt to err from weakness. My government shall be the people's government. Candor and good faith shall be my guide; we will have no disputes, no personal differences, no envies. We will lay our animosities aside, sacrifice our hate on the country's altar; let no sentiments find a place in your hearts but the desire for the independence and liberty of Mexico. Long life to the republic and liberty!

SERVANDO CANALES.

MATAMORAS, *August* 13, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 9.]

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AND HOME AFFAIRS—SECTION FIRST.

The citizen President of the republic has heard with regret of the act committed in the city of Matamoras, on the 12th of August last, by the forces under command of General Pedro Hinojosa and Colonel Servando Canales, with a view that the political and military command of the State of Tamaulipas should devolve on the second named officer, who accepted it in a proclamation issued on the 13th, thereby disavowing General J. M. de J. Carvajal, the incumbent at the time. Even had there been just motives for the dismissal of General Carvajal, it was only the supreme government that had the right to order his dismissal; and it had already so determined, on the 4th of said month, in order that General Carvajal might answer the charges against him for the capitulation he granted to Don Tomas Mejia.

You were then appointed as governor and military commandant to supersede General Carvajal. But until you superseded him, and until this determination of the government came to the knowledge of General Carvajal's subordinates, they were bound to respect his authority. This error cannot, however, be excused, because of the third resolution of the act above mentioned, where it is provided to refer it to the citizen President, under protest, and abide by his determination. Such means having been used previously, in other like movements, does not deprive them of their true character of revolt, contrary to the most binding duties imposed by law and military discipline. No hope for the salvation of the country can be entertained, if a stop is not put to military revolts, which have so far been the cause of the misfortunes of the republic. The nation has been struggling for the last nine years against parties that revolted against the constitution and the laws, which, after having been defeated, went as far as treason itself, by calling foreigners to their aid. The people are struggling to establish forever respect for national law, and the principles that authority should not be derived through violence, by force of arms, but arise from the laws consented to by the free will and votes of the citizens; that law be superior to force; that public power be superior to military mutinies; and that arms be in the hands of those citizens who, instead of disregarding the laws and dismissing public officers, will but serve their country by true allegiance to the constituted authorities, and strict obedience to the laws. Disapproving, as the citizen President does disapprove, the military movement at Matamoras, and disavowing all the acts arising therefrom, he entreats you that, beside all the steps you may have taken as governor and military commander of the State of Tamaulipas, you should provide the best means for the submission of those

forces, and direct General Hinojosa and Colonel Canales to proceed to the seat of the supreme government, to answer for their conduct. Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, September 12, 1866.

LERDO DE TEJADA,
Secretary of Foreign and Home Affairs.

General SANTIAGO TAPIA,
Governor and Military Commandant of the State of Tamaulipas, Matamoras.

[Enclosure No. 10.]

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT—MEXICAN REPUBLIC—GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF TAMAULIPAS.

CITIZEN MINISTER: At two o'clock yesterday there was a political move in this city that resulted in the removal of General José M. J. Carvajal as governor and military commander of the State, and it was so unanimous and orderly that not one gun was fired, and the city soon subsided into its usual quiet.

I was immediately chosen by popular will to replace Carvajal, and I have taken charge of both offices in obedience to public opinion, and to prevent anarchy.

You will learn the causes and reasons for the move from the papers I send you.

I have the honor to inform you of this, and request you will make it known to the citizen President, to whom, as well as to you, I make my humble submission.

Liberty and independence! Matamoras, August 13, 1866.

SERVANDO CANALES.

The MINISTER OF RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT, *Chihuahua.*

[Enclosure No. 11.]

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT—SECTION FIRST.

Your despatch of the 13th of August has reached the President. You tell of the move in Matamoras making you governor in place of José M. de J. Carvajal.

On the 7th of August General Santiago Tapia was made governor and military commander of your State. On the 12th of September I sent you a despatch informing you that the President disapproved of the terms of the Matamoras surrender and annulled all the articles, ordering Pedro Hinojosa and you to present yourselves to the supreme government to answer for your conduct. This despatch and the commission of General Tapia were published in the official paper of the 14th of September, of which I send you a copy.

The President requests me to say to you to obey the orders of Tapia, and to present yourself at headquarters immediately.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, October 2, 1866.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

Colonel SERVANDO CANALES, *Matamoras.*

[Enclosure No. 12.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—MEXICAN REPUBLIC—GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF TAMAULIPAS.

CITIZEN MINISTER: I have the honor to inform you that on yesterday, at two o'clock in the afternoon, a political move occurred in this place, the sole design

of which was to overthrow the administration of General J. M. J. Carvajal, for reasons stated in the papers accompanying this note. Only a change of persons has taken place. Carvajal was deposed from the place of civil and military governor of the State, and I have assumed those offices in accordance with the will of the people and the garrison, so as not to leave the government without a head to prevent anarchy and confusion, that would be so disastrous at a time like this.

Consequently, the undersigned and all the forces in the town are at the orders of citizen Benito Juarez, the worthy President of the republic, and are entirely disposed to continue fighting in defence of the sacred rights of independence and liberty. Be pleased, citizen minister, to communicate this note to the citizen President of the republic, and accept the best expressions of my respect and esteem.

Independence and liberty! Matamoras, August 13, 1866.

SERVANDO CANALES.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE,
(*wherever he may be.*)

[Enclosure No. 13.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

From your despatch of the 13th of August the citizen President of the republic has heard of the move that occurred in your city on the 12th, when the garrison disavowed General José M. J. Carvajal as governor and military commander of the State and appointed you in his place till the decision of the supreme government, which offices you say you accept to prevent fatal consequences that otherwise might take place.

Before receiving your communication, when the President heard of the capitulation between Generals Carvajal and Thomas Mejia, General Santiago Tapia was made military governor of the State to prevent any evil results; but the supreme magistrate of the nation disapproves of the removal and substitution by armed force, and therefore orders were sent to General Tapia to summon you and General Hinojosa to appear before the government to answer for their conduct. When that is done your declarations will be duly considered.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, October 2, 1866.

MEJIA.

Colonel SERVANDO CANALES,
In Matamoras, or elsewhere.

[Enclosure No. 14.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF TAMAULIPAS.

CITIZEN MINISTER: Colonel Gomez, chief of the brigade of that name, reports from Tampico on the 8th instant as follows:

"You will learn from the accompanying paper that finally, this day at three o'clock in the afternoon, this town fell into our hands, and consequently all the French and traitors that held it so long are expelled from the territory. On informing you of that pleasant event, I have the satisfaction of congratulating you, and of informing you that as soon as it can be done a circumstantial report of all that happened during the siege will be made out, with a list of all that was taken from the enemy, in accordance with the agreement entered into between General Pavon and the French chiefs."

I am pleased to send this to your department for the information of the President of the republic, whom I congratulate on the splendid victory over the French and traitors that held the important town of Tampico.

Independence and liberty! The heroic town of Matamoras, August 13, 1866.

SERVANDO CANALES.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE,
(*wherever he may be.*)

[Enclosure No. 15.]

Military convention signed by General Desiderio Pavon, commander of the Mexican liberal forces operating on Tampico, S. Revaud, chief of the French naval forces, and Mr. Langlois, chief of the French forces in Tampico.

ARTICLE 1. The French troops now in the Casemate and Octavo forts shall appear on the wharf to-morrow, the 8th, between two and three o'clock of the afternoon, with their arms, their baggage, and their flag displayed, the band playing a march, with full cartridge-boxes for each man, to embark for leaving.

ART. 2 An armistice shall be religiously observed by both belligerents from now till the French gunboats that transport the troops shall have crossed the bar of the port.

Art. 3. French subjects residing in Tampico shall have full protection, and Consul Charles de St. Charles, having charge of the French and Belgian consulates, shall continue to exercise his duties as heretofore with all due protection.

Made in duplicate at Tampico, on the 7th of August, 1866.

DESIDERIO PAVON.
S. REVAUD.
S. LANGLOIS.

[Enclosure No. 16.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE—OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

From your despatch of the 18th of August, and the accompanying papers, the citizen President of the republic has learned with pleasure that on the 8th of this month the important town of Tampico was entirely occupied by the republican forces, and the French garrison that held it left, in accordance with a convention between General Desiderio Pavon and its commanders; and the chief magistrate agreeing that circumstances made it necessary to draw up a treaty allowing the enemy to evacuate the place with their arms, baggage, &c., according to articles 1 and 2, has been pleased to ratify it; but he cannot and does not approve of article 3, because the consuls that favored intervention and desired the republic cannot be recognized as consuls, or have any official character; yet, like other foreign subjects, they are entitled to the protection that is allowed by the law of nations and the laws of the republic.

I communicate the above to you in reply to your despatch, and for consequent action.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, October 2, 1866.

MEJIA.

The MILITARY COMMANDER *of the State of Tamaulipas, in Matamoras,* (*or wherever he may be.*)

[Enclosure No. 17.]

TAMPICO, *August* 22, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: Before this reaches your hands your readers will doubtless be in possession of the intelligence of the capture of this important post by the constitutional forces; but some further details, from an eye-witness of what has occurred here, may not prove uninteresting.

On the morning of the 1st instant a detachment of the constitutional forces of this State, under the command of Colonel Manuel Cuesta, suddenly appeared before Fort Iturbide, and assaulted it with the cry of "*Viva la libertad!*" Upon this the entire Mexican force, which had been placed in the fort as garrison, went over in a body to the liberals, and the fort and all its supplies fell into the possession of Colonel Cuesta. Eleven Frenchmen, including the commandant of the fort, were killed in the *mêlée*.

The State troops then rushed into the city and secured possession of Plaza Libertad and the custom-houses, and opened a brisk fire of musketry on the gunboat Musquito, driving her from her moorings, but she finally escaped with the French collector of customs, and several Mexican rebels on board. The liberal forces then advanced to the Plaza de Armas, where they met the imperialists, and drove them to the forts Casa Mata and Octavo.

On the following day the Huesteca troops, numbering some one thousand men of all arms, under the command of General Pavon, crossed over from Pueblo Viejo and effected a junction with the State troops. Hostile operations were continued until the 7th, the liberals not having sufficient powder to move as effectively as they wished and as the numerical strength of their force would have permitted. Meanwhile the dwelling-houses of the town suffered severely from the merciless fire of the French forts, which being situated on elevated ground enabled them to aim at any house they wished to destroy. Notwithstanding this, however, they seemed to throw their fire indiscriminately through the city, killing men, women, and children, and causing the most wanton destruction of property. On the morning of the 7th two gunboats from Vera Cruz appeared in the river, cautiously approaching Fort Iturbide, and about three p. m. Casa Mata and the gunboats seemed to open a simultaneous fire upon the fort, which was continued until five p. m., when the gunboats reached the anchorage abreast the Plaza de Armas and hoisted a flag of truce, which was at once answered by the Mexican liberal commander.

The United States consul general and the Prussian and Spanish consuls were then authorized to confer with the French senior naval officer, in the presence of the Mexican Colonel Gomez, and preliminary stipulations were entered into for the retirement of the French forces and the surrender of the forts remaining in their possession. A further interview then took place in Casa Mata, and at eleven p. m. the terms of capitulation with all the honors of war were signed. At three p. m. on the following day the last remnant of the French force in the State of Tamaulipas was embarked upon the gunboats, and the soil of the State was again free from the presence of the foreign invader.

This town now bears the impress of the horrors of war. Houses more or less destroyed and injured by shot and shell, families mourning the loss of some of their number, and the traitors who have had imperial appointments trembling and in mortal dread of what is to be the result of their past misdeeds. The few French residents here are not molested, but they wear most elongated visages and whisper maledictions against the United States, to whose support of the liberals and opposition to the "empire" they attribute its rapid downfall. The liberal forces, since their occupation of the city, have behaved exceedingly well, and it is impossible to describe the feeling of relief and freedom that is experienced by all classes at the termination of the reign of terror which we have

experienced during the whole of the French occupation. Communication with the interior is again open, and there is now a chance to move freely after the confinement we have been suffering here for more than two years past.

The political prefect, Don Toribio de la Torre, who had made himself so odious to his countrymen during the imperial occupation, and particularly in enforcing the barbarous decree of Maximilian of the 3d of October last, was caught at an early hour on the morning of the 1st, and was summarily executed. Such has been his traitorous reward.

Don Matildo Romero, who had been judge of the district during the Maximilian *régime*, and has played a conspicuous part in the imperial *rôle*, took refuge in the house of the United States consul general, where his family had already preceded him, and solicited the influence of Mr. Chase to save his life. This was, of course, cheerfully promised, and he was assured that the consul had authority from the military commanders to protect the lives and property of all who took refuge with him; yet such was the fear and remorse of the unhappy man that, notwithstanding all the assurances that were proffered to him, he could not overcome his fright, and committed suicide by taking poison. His treason to his country thus found its punishment at his own hands.

The conduct of the French at this place has been without excuse. After ruining the commerce of the place by their occupation, they have finished the work of destruction by bombarding the town, and inflicting wanton injury upon private property. They have also caused a great loss of life among those who were entirely non-combatants. Their civilization has proved itself infinitely worse than any the past record of Mexico has ever presented.

Señor Don Matias Romero,
Washington City, D. C.

[Enclosure No. 18.]

REPUBLICAN ARMY—HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL—No. 2.

Citizen Minister: I have the honor to inform you that this city was occupied to-day by our forces, driving out 100 traitors that held it, five of whom we killed, wounded 12, and took 59 prisoners, including two principal chiefs, who are dangerously wounded. All the enemy's horses, arms, equipments, and ammunition were taken.

Be pleased to make this known to the President, and accept for yourself the assurances of my consideration and obedience.

Independence and liberty! Nazas, August 8, 1866.

FRANCISCO O. ARCE.

The Citizen Minister of War, *at Chihuahua.*

[Enclosure No. 19.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

By your despatch of the 8th instant, the President of the republic is pleased to learn that you have occupied Nazas, held by 100 traitors, five of which you killed, took 12 wounded and 59 prisoners, among them the two chiefs, badly wounded.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, August 16, 1866.

MEJIA.

General Francisco Arce, *at Nazas.*

[Enclosure No. 20.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—ARMY OF THE NORTH—GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

As I have already informed you, I set out from Matamoras, dividing my forces into three columns, and a ten days' rain made me go slow. Yet the enemy holding the place found I was coming, and evacuated it on the 26th of June, and marched towards Saltillo, which place Douay left, spiking his cannon, and taking all precautions to prevent the desertion of his men. Lieutenant Colonel Ruperto Martinez, with his New Leon rifles, and Caderéita Jimenez, with the explorers, occupied the deserted city the next day, and informed me of the fact, though they had done it without orders, and then continued on in pursuit of the enemy.

The French forces under Douay left Saltillo yesterday for Matahuela to meet Bazaine, who has 2,000 men with him, as we learn from intercepted correspondence. The French and traitors have been defeated so often in this part of the republic the troops are thoroughly demoralized. I will remain here only long enough to increase my forces and equip new ones, when I will open the campaign in the State of San Luis Potosi, unless I have different orders from the supreme government. Congratulate the President of the republic on the evacuation of Monterey and Saltillo by the cowardly enemy on our approach.

Independence and liberty! Monterey, August 5, 1866.

M. ESCOBEDO.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE
of the Mexican Republic, in Chihuahua.

[Enclosure No. 21.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE, SECTION FIRST.

By your despatch of the 5th instant, the President of the republic hears with pleasure that Monterey was evacuated by the enemy on the 26th, and occupied by our forces under Colonel Ruperto Martinez, and that General Douay had also evacuated Saltillo and marched towards Matahuela, to join some forces from San Luis, and so the city of Saltillo also fell into our hands.

The occupation of these two places, the only ones held by the enemy in the States of New Leon and Coahuila, is of the greatest importance to us. Thus the victory of Santa Gertrudis and the occupation of Matamoras free us from the invaders, and enable us to operate more effectually with the rest of the patriots.

In regard to the military operations that you propose in the note I am now answering, separate instructions will be sent to you when convenient.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, August 28, 1866.

MEJIA.

General MARIANO ESCOBEDO,
Chief of the Northern Army Corps, Monterey.

[Enclosure No. 22.]

General Mariano Escobedo, chief of the northern army corps, to the troops under his command:

SOLDIERS: More than seven thousand French and traitors that occupied the States of New Leon, Coahuila, and Tamaulipas are there no longer. Those not completely whipped and routed, fled before the splendor of republican arms. The French General Douay directing military operations on the frontier, re-

tired with his demoralized troops, without gaining one victory, and Marshal Bazaine, chief of the invading army, came to save his weary battalions from dispersion.

The battle of St. Gertrude has altered the aspect of the military question sustained by the republic against its enemies; the occupation of the important places of Matamoras, Monterey, and Saltillo is the legitimate consequence of that important day.

Companions in arms: In the name of the citizen President Benito Juarez, I welcome you to the capital of New Leon, where your fellow-countrymen receive you with open arms, and the ladies have crowns of laurel for your worthy brows. The northern frontier is now free, but our brothers inland, who have struggled so bravely against invaders, are yet suffering the yoke imposed upon them by foreign bayonets. Our duty is to aid them. We will rest awhile under arms; then, fully provided with supplies for them, we will carry the war where it is necessary, wherever there are foreigners and traitors, enemies of the great Mexican republic.

Independence and liberty! Monterey, August 8, 1866.

MARIANO ESCOBEDO.

[Enclosure No. 23.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF COAHUILA DE ZARAGOZA.

After the victory of Santa Gertrudis, where the convoy guard was routed—the capture of this place and the occupation of Matamoras—after the evacuation of Saltillo by the French and traitors—this place was occupied as soon as the enemy had left it.

By this fortunate event the entire northern frontier is free from the invaders, and is now ready to march to the interior to overthrow the worm-eaten edifice called the empire. Colonel Zepeda, who took possession of Saltillo, was prevented from pursuing the enemy by his duties to regulate affairs around him. The next day Lieutenant Colonel Ruperto Martinez was sent out after the fugitives, and reports that a great number of deserters, French, Belgians, and traitors, are joining him every day. After equipping the second brigade of 1,000 men, I prepared to march to the States of Durango and Zacatecas, where there is most excitement, and the people need a leader against the enemy. For this purpose I have sent the brigade commander citizen Jesus Gonzales Herrera and Generals Auza and Arce, with full powers, to that section of the country.

The reorganization of the districts and the equipment of troops has detained me here till now; but I start for Saltillo to-morrow to confer with the general of the northern army about operations upon San Luis.

I have the honor to communicate the above to you for the information of the President of the republic, whom I congratulate in the country's name, for the favorable turn of events in our favor.

Independence and liberty! Parras, August 8, 1866.

ANDRES S. VIEZCA.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE
of the Republic, in Chihuahua.

[Enclosure No. 24.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

By your communication of the 8th, the citizen President of the republic is pleased to learn that Saltillo was evacuated by the enemy on the 4th, and

immediately occupied by our forces; also, that you had gone to that city to regulate affairs, and confer with the commander-in-chief of the northern army in regard to the continuation of the campaign.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, August 21, 1866.

MEJIA.

General ANDRES S. VIEZCA,
Governor and Military Commander of the State of Coahuila de Zaragoza, in Saltillo.

[Enclosure No. 25.]

QUIROGA'S PROPOSAL TO SUBMIT.

We give below a letter of Viezca to the President, with annexed documents, on Quiroga's proposal to submit to the government, and deliver Campos up. Viezca's reply shows the enemy's situation, and that no commentaries are needed on Quiroga's infamous proposal.

PARRAS, *August* 8, 1866.

RESPECTED SIR: I inform you officially, through the secretary of war, of the evacuation of Monterey and Saltillo by the French and traitors, and of our occupation of those important towns. The frontier now is free from the yoke the invaders sought to impose upon it, and everything induces us to hope their last hour is near.

Campos and Quiroga wanted to join our forces when they saw there was no hope for them, and thus save their lives and fortunes. I send you Quiroga's first letter and my reply. He afterwards sent me a letter proposing to deliver Campos up, if we would let him join us in our war against the French, and continue at the head of his own forces. I told him I had not the authority to grant his request, and I did not believe it was my duty, even if I could. I send you copies of both documents. I hope my conduct in not treating with Quiroga and Campos will meet with your approbation.

As ever, I remain your true friend and servant.

A. S. VIEZCA.

President BENITO JUAREZ, *Chihuahua.*

SALTILLO, *July* 30, 1866.

MY DEAR FRIEND: I wrote to General Escobedo to-day, giving my opinion of the situation, and offering to join him in efforts against the invaders who have sought to subjugate us. I hope Señor Escobedo will accept my offer; but if he does not, I will do what I can to keep from being obliged to go to the interior to accept offers made me there; and for that reason I write this letter to you. If you consent to unite your forces with mine, please give me an official communication of the fact, addressed to the Aurora factory, where I will wait for it.

This offer embraces the person and troops of my friend Maximo Campos, who entertains the same opinion and wish; and I am resolved to follow his fate, whether his person and interests are protected or not.

Your friend and servant,

JULIAN QUIROGA.

Governor ANDRES S. VIEZCA.

PARRAS, *August* 4, 1866.

DEAR SIR: In answer to yours of the 30th, proposing to unite our forces to prevent another incursion of the frontier, I must say that, whatever General Escobedo may think, I believe the hard lessons we have had, and the blood that has been shed by our countrymen in contests with a foreign enemy, ought to serve as warnings for us in future; and I am sure the frontier can defend itself without its forces joining yours, that have fought for the odious project of intervention. Besides, it would be doing an injury to my conscience, and a violation of my duty, to accept your proposal, which is altogether inadmissible at this time.

My responsibility to the nation is great, and as a public officer I am bound by the law and public opinion. It may be well that you have determined to follow the fate of Maximo Campos; it is natural and logical, no one will deny.

Now, if you two have any feelings for the good of the country, you can place your troops at the disposal of the government, or the legitimate authorities of the republic, and accept, without conditions, the judgment of the law.

After saying what I have, I think it entirely unnecessary to send a commissioner to confer with you.

Your obedient servant,

ANDRES S. VIEZCA.

DON JULIAN QUIROGA, *Saltillo.*

[Letter omitted.]

PASO DE LA POIEDAD, *July* 29, 1866.

To Messrs. AUZA and VIEZCA:

The bearer, Don Ignacio Soto, can certify to the truth of this.

JULIAN QUIROGA.

PARRAS, *August* 5, 1866.

To DON JULIAN QUIROGA:

Your commissioner, Don Ignacio Soto, has conferred with me on the subject of your proposals to join me, under certain conditions, and I must say it is not in my power to accept your offers.

A. S. VIEZCA.

PARRAS, *August* 8, 1866.

True copies:

E. VIEZCA, *Chief Officer.*

From No. 1 of the News Bulletin of Saltillo, 5th of this month, we make the following extracts:

"General Escobedo arrived in Monterey the day before yesterday, and he is daily expected here with the main body of his troops.

"RECENT EVENTS.

"Campos and Quiroga, of the French party, were with him. We know they both received munitions of war from the French, and were encouraged to pronounce for Santa Anna, Gonzales Ortega, or any one else who might serve as a torch for internal conflagration. Poor deluded people! Worse than Napoleon or the basest of his agents. Why can't they see that the national cause will finally overcome all their machinations?"

No. 83.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 8, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 27th ultimo, containing official reports of certain military operations in the northern military division of the Mexican republic, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 3.

MILITARY OPERATIONS OF THE WESTERN DIVISION.

List of papers.

84. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with 5 enclosures).....April 8, 1866.
85. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....July 5, 1866.
86. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with 6 enclosures).....June 14, 1866.
87. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....July 7, 1866.
88. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with 1 enclosure).....July 6, 1866.
89. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....July 12, 1866.
90. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with 13 enclosures).....November 25, 1866.
91. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....December 8, 1866.

No. 84.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, April 8, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to enclose you a copy of No. 11 of the official paper of the government of the Mexican republic, published on the 8th of May last, at the town of El Paso del Norte, containing a circular of the governor and military commander of the State of Sonora, dated the 30th of December last, reporting a victory gained the day before, by the forces of the republic over a party of interventionists; also, a communication from the said governor to the minister of war, containing the report of General Angel Martinez on his Alamos expedition, in which he dispersed the force of the interventionist Almada; and lastly, the answer of the minister of war General Ignacio Mejia.

I accept the opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.—From No. 11 of the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic. Paso del Norte, March 8, 1866.—Translation.]

Circular from the government and military commandancy of the State of Sonora.

"More than four hundred traitors, under Santiago Campillo, jr., and F. Barcelo, attacked this place at one yesterday, and after one hour's contest, were completely routed and pursued for three leagues by the reserves of the brave commander, Juan G. Escalante.

"The result of the battle was, two killed on our side, Jesus Madueña and Reyes Vega, of the first batallion, and four wounded, among whom was Surgeon Eugene S. Wakefield. The enemy lost thirty killed, eleven wounded, and fifty-one prisoners. We took one hundred muskets with ball cartridges, and twenty-odd saddled horses. Many of those forced to fill the enemy's ranks are deserting and coming to our quarters.

"The conduct of our soldiers is worthy of the greatest eulogy. Both officers and soldiers behaved with the greatest gallantry; they all did their duty, and all they ask is to be led where they can be most useful."

I communicate this to you that you may make it known to the inhabitants of your district. Independence and liberty! Matape, December 30, 1865.

J. GARCIA MORALES.

THOMAS G. PICO, *First Officer.*

The MILITARY COMMANDANT *of the district of* ————.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF SONORA.

I have the honor to enclose you a copy of the official report and private letter received yesterday from General Angel Martinez, giving an account of his victory over the traitors in the district of Alamos.

In reply to the general, I inform him that there are no other traitor bands in the State except those of Salvador Vazques and Refugio Canori, from two to three hundred men each—one in the district of Arizipe, the other in Magdalena, both now quiet. I will soon communicate with the general, and recommence operations.

Please communicate this to the President, and congratulate him for me on account of the glorious victories due to the valor of General Martinez. Independence and liberty! Camp in Noria, February 1, 1866.

J. GARCIA MORALES.

D. ELIAL, *Acting Secretary.*

The MINISTER OF WAR, *Paso del Norte.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF SONORA—REPUBLICAN ARMY—BRIGADE OF OPERATIONS—UNITED SECTIONS—GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

I left Toro on the third for this city, determined to offer battle to the traitor José M. T. Almada. I passed the night at Venda. At midnight I sent out a band of scouts, under Cipriano Pardo, to reconnoitre the enemy's advance in Carrizal, which place I expected to reach on the fourth. On that night I sent all the cavalry under Colonel Ascencion Correa, through by-roads, to surprise

the enemy at Salitral, while I advanced with the infantry, on the main road, to aid him if necessary. The enemy was surprised, and a courier of Almada was captured. He had despatches advising the commander at Salitral to attack the enemy as soon as his re-enforcements should arrive.

On the main road near Salitral I met an advance of the enemy and took one prisoner; this was about day-break; I then sent for the cavalry to join me.

I heard that Almada was about to move, so I hastened on and gained the heights of Cuchujaqui, a strong point for the enemy if they had got it. As the enemy did not appear, I continued to advance, meeting no opposition but a small cavalry force that was soon put to flight and pursued by Ensign Felipe Valle, with only twenty men, as far as the edge of this city.

We rested three hours at Mercedes, and camped that night at San Antonio de los Norotes.

On the 6th the enemy opened fire on my advance. I instantly changed my position and marched to Carboneras heights, where I waited for the attack. I sent out Cipriano Pardo with scouts; they reported that the enemy was in this city. I then began to advance and fell into ambush, but escaped without hurt.

At two o'clock on the morning of the 7th I marched round the hill to get in the rear of the enemy; this I accomplished before daylight, and had to wait some hours before it was light enough to begin the attack. The enemy then perceiving us, sent out 150 sharpshooters to annoy our flank. They were soon driven back.

I advanced with the squadron of lancers and the Hidalgo batallion, sending the latter under Colonel Correa to flank the enemy, while the cavalry was to be reserved to pursue the enemy if they attempted to escape without fight. Thus arranged the battle began. The lancers made the first attack, and their impetuosity decided the day. When I rode towards the infantry Commander Pardo informed me that Almada had taken to flight, protected by a small guard which I noticed in the distance. I started after him at such a rapid pace that the cavalry of tired horses could not keep up with me, and I suddenly found myself in front of nine men. I drew my pistol and shot Antonio Anselmo, brother of the traitor Almada, and second in command, while the others ran away, leaving their horses and arms. My horse was wounded by two shots.

This battle finishes the traitors in the district of Alamos. We took five pieces of artillery (three bronze and two iron,) 216 muskets, and other munitions of war.

The enemy's loss was about 180 of all ranks. The list of our killed you will find annexed hereto.

I communicate this for your information, congratulating you on a victory that will tend to restore peace to the weary country.

Independence and liberty! Alamos, January 10, 1866.

ANGEL MARTINEZ.

To JESUS G. MORALES,

General-in-chief of the forces in Sonora, (wherever he may be.)

HEADQUARTERS AT NORIA, *February* 1, 1866.

A true copy:

ELIAS, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 4.]

List of the killed and wounded in the battle of the 10th of January, 1866, *at Alamos.*

KILLED.—Captains Manuel Isabel, Ramon Zamano; Lieutenant José Peraza; Sargeants Carman Salasar, Agustin Barajas, Nabor Mesa; Corporals Cip-

riano Vallejo, Higinio Rodriguez, Pedro Rocha; Soldiers Domingo Martinez, Higinio Hernandez, Jesus Valdez, Eusebio Armenta, Maximo Carrasco, Tomas Vazquez.

WOUNDED.—Captains Florentino Curiel, Dionicio Avalos; Sergeants Anastasio Audrade, Cipriano Vallejo, Atilano Vazquez, Emilio Rodriguez, Jesus Chaves, Martin Castellanos; Corporals José Maria Vega, Marcos Vargas, Catarino Cosio, Estevan Pardo, Ireneo Espinosa; Soldiers Telesforo Valenzuela, Pedro Garcia, Antonio Lopez, Felix Morales, Tomas Yocupiso, Cirilo Rojas, Pioquinto Salado, Isabel Felix, Rafael Mugica, José M. Zazueta, Lorenzo Gastelum, Estanislao Lopez, Antonio Victoria, Deciderio Astorga, Arcadio Beltram, Victoriano Rebeles, Victor Ruiz.

ALAMOS, *January* 10, 1866.

ANGEL MARTINEZ.

HEADQUARTERS AT NORIA, *February* 1, 1866.

A true copy:

ELIAS, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 5.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

Your despatch of the 1st ultimo, with the official report and private letter of General Angel Martinez, has been received. It gives an account of the battle of Alamos and the dispersion of the traitors in that district under Almada.

The President of the republic is pleased to hear of the gallant conduct of the Martinez brigade and the well-arranged plans of its commander to perfect the entire pacification of the State which he has mentioned.

I communicate this to you by order of the President, who desires you to inform General Martinez how much his conduct is appreciated.

Independence and liberty! Paso del Norte, March 6, 1866.

MEJIA.

General JESUS GARCIA MORALES,
At Noria, (or wherever he may be.)

PASO DEL NORTE, *March* 6, 1866.

True copies:

MARIANO DIAZ, *Chief Officer.*

No. 85.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 5, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 8th of April last, enclosing No. 11 of the official paper of your government, which contains a statement of some military operations in Mexico, and to thank you for the information contained therein.

I improve this opportunity to renew to you the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 86.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, June 14, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to enclose to you, for the information of the government of the United States, a copy of No. 16 of the official paper of the government of the Mexican republic, dated the 17th of May last, embracing two communications from General Corona, chief of the brigades of Sinaloa and Jalisco, dated the 21st and 23d of March last, containing his official report of the advantages gained by the national forces in the first of those States mentioned over the French forces and interventionists, from the 18th to the 22d of the month mentioned, in the vicinity of Mazatlan, and the answer of the minister of war to those communications on the 9th of May last. The annexed paper also contains a communication from the governor of the State of Sinaloa, dated 7th of April last, transmitting a note of General Corona giving an account of other advantages over the interventionists at Guadalupe, and the minister of war's answer thereto, General Don Ignacio Mejia, in the President's name.

You will also find in the same paper the official report of General Garcia Morales, governor and military commander of the State of Sonora, on the taking of Magdalena, a town of that State, garrisoned by interventionists.

I accept the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.—From No. 16 of the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, printed at Paso del Norte, the 17th of May, 1866.]

REPUBLICAN ARMY—UNITED BRIGADES OF SINALOA AND JALISCO—GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

On the 18th instant the enemy, to the number of four hundred French and six hundred traitors, made his appearance. Commander Miramontes drove him back from Urias to Castillo. Commander Pintado marched out with a squad of the liberty guides to reconnoitre and protect Miramontes. He met the enemy at Quemado, a vanguard of traitors and African hunters, and drove him back to Castillo, killing six, picking up two muskets, two lances, and a sword; we losing one second sergeant killed, and one first slightly wounded. The enemy remained in Castillo that night, and Commander Pintado continued his reconnoissance in front.

On the 19th the enemy set out for Presidio, and I started towards Quemado, by Mariel, with the first and second sections of the Ligera Mixta, to flank him. We reached the main road by noon, and found the enemy had passed. Lieutenant Colonel Parra, with a part of Ramirez's corps, brought up the rear, together with the second brigade and the Guias de Jalisco. Before reaching the river we learned that the enemy had encamped on its banks. I ordered Lieutenant Colonel Parra to take a circuit to the river, and General Gutierrez to do the same by another route. They both reached the river at two o'clock in the afternoon without accident, and found themselves facing the enemy in Presidio. On our approach a column of French rifles marched down to the bank of the river in front of us. I re-enforced Parra with a company of Guias de Jalisco, and ordered him to charge the enemy on the right flank, which he did with so much spirit that the traitors were repulsed with the loss of many killed,

and, among them, the famous assassin Mauricio Castañeda. The second brigade, with two mountain howitzers, attacked the centre. The Ramirez brigade fell on the left flank of the enemy, and, after a hard contest, succeeded in driving him to the suburbs, breaking his line of battle. Want of ammunition caused the attacking party some anxiety, until it was supplied by the first brigade. The attack was now renewed with such force the French were forced into the town, where Colonel Tolentino compelled them to capitulate. While negotiations were pending the enemy was re-enforced, and our troops had to retire precipitately, leaving two howitzers in the enemy's possession. I withdrew to take care of my wounded, and ordered Colonel Parra and Lieutenant Colonel Francisco Tolentino to annoy the enemy, supported by General Gutierrez

As I have no reports yet, I cannot say how many men we have lost, but I know our loss is considerable. Among our officers, Lieutenant Colonel George Granados, Commander Miguel Peregrina, Captain Geronimo Saavedra, and Lieutenant Tiburcio Serrano were wounded. The enemy's loss is great, for I have seen many dead French and traitors on the field. Most of the traitors scattered, and twenty-three have come into my lines.

There was a slight skirmish about night. Commander Donato Guerra reports that he attacked the enemy at Palos Prietos, and drove him into the town.

On the morning of the 20th Commander Pintado attacked the enemy near Aguacaliente, and drove him from his trenches, with the loss of only six killed. Firing of artillery and musketry was continued during the day. At night the traitors and French tried to water some horses at the river, but we drove them away, killing three of them.

You will inform the ministry of war that I will give a detailed report as soon as I can get the necessary information.

Independence and the country! Camp at Garita, fronting the Presidio, March 21, 1866.

RAMON CORONA.

Citizen GOVERNOR OF THE STATE, *Culiacan*.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

REPUBLICAN ARMY—UNITED BRIGADES OF SINALOA AND JALISCO—GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

CITIZEN GOVERNOR: I have already given an account of events at Presidio up to the evening of the 20th instant. There was little firing that night. On the morning of the 21st the enemy again approached the river and was driven back with no loss on our side. The next day there was a skirmish, in which we lamented the loss of our brave commander, C. Juan Miramontes.

At seven in the evening the enemy attracted our attention in several places, and finally escaped towards Balamo, along the river road. At eight all our line was on the move, and I ordered Colonel Francisco Tolentino, with a part of his corps, to cut off the enemy's retreat, which he did; however, the land was so broken and the enemy's hurry so great, he managed to get by, and we had to follow him with the cavalry, under Colonel Eulogio Parra and Commander Leonardo Pintado, a league beyond the river.

The narrowness of the road prevented the effective action of the cavalry. In view of this I ordered a portion of the infantry in front, under Captain Noriega and Commander C. Ascencion G. Calvillo, as aid. They pursued the flying enemy till five in the morning, when we stopped to rest, as our forces were much fatigued, and the enemy had got under shelter of their gunboats. He left three dead. We lost two men at Balamo, and Captain Maximiano Ramirez was wounded; further on, another soldier was wounded, and before we arrived at the river bank one of our men was killed and two wounded in the Degollano

battalion. After setting fire to some houses in Presidio, and destroying a cotton factory, the enemy retreated rapidly, closely pursued by our men, and left the following effects on the road: 7 loads of ammunition, 98 muskets, 2 mountain pieces, 15 sacks of flour, sugar, bread and coffee, 5 loads of baggage, 27 harnessed mules, and 5 horses.

On my return to Presidio I ordered the tents to be struck, and 82 bodies to be buried; 61 of these were republicans, whose name, rank and station are on the list, and 76 were wounded, which I sent to the hospital. These events happened from the 19th to the 22d of the present month. You will perceive that the number of killed and wounded is about equal; but I account for this by hearing that the enemy took no prisoners, for the 15 that were taken from us on the 19th were shot as soon as all important information could be extorted from them.

400 French and 600 traitors left the port with six mountain howitzers and one field-piece; and 250 French, with 77 wounded, and 250 traitors, with 20 wounded and 3 field pieces, left Presidio at the same time.

I am trying to find if the missing pieces are buried or hid in the thicket. The French at the port speak in terror of the bravery of our soldiers, and in ct I must say they all did their duty.

I send you this communication for the information of the war department.

Independence and liberty! Union Villa, March 23, 1866.

RAMON CORONA.

Citizen GOVERNOR OF THE STATE, *Culiacan.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

By your communications of the 21st and 23d of March of this year from the chief of the united brigades of Sinaloa and Jalisco, the citizen President of the republic is informed of the military operations on the 18th and 22d of this month, in which 400 French and 600 traitors, with six pieces of artillery, were driven out of Mazatlan and pursued as far as Presidio.

The persevering courage of our troops in pursuit of the enemy as far as Presidio, causing him great loss, has broken up his intended expedition into the interior, and been of signal service to the national cause. The enemy must now be convinced that it is impossible to subjugate us, as the patriotism of true Mexicans cannot be extinguished.

The success of the strategy of the general-in-chief of the united brigades of Sinaloa and Jalisco, and the worthy conduct of his subalterns in the different engagements, shows that the expedition has been properly conducted, and the triumphant result gives great satisfaction to the citizen President, who instructs me to congratulate you, and give you his most cordial thanks.

Independence and liberty! Paso del Norte, May 9, 1866.

MEJIA.

Citizen GOVERNOR AND MILITARY COMMANDER
of the State of Sinaloa, Culiacan.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF SINALOA.

The citizen general-in-chief of the united brigades of Sinaloa and Jalisco makes the following communication to this government, from the Labor estate, on the 6th instant:

General Guzman writes me on the 24th ultimo that his brigade was surprised in Guajicori, at eight o'clock in the morning, by a large body of Lozada's traitors, and the town was set on fire for the fourth time. He has not yet given me an account of his losses. On the 27th he writes me from Agua Caliente that all his scattered forces have not yet been collected; that he laments the loss of Major Francisco Cruz Peña, Santos Flores, lieutenant of the fourth company of the Pueblos Unidos battalion, and twelve men, names unknown. He does not know the enemy's loss, though he saw several new graves near the Guajicori church, and knows that one corpse was carried as far as Acaponeta. He says 500 Indians from Nayarit came down to join him on the 26th. On the 29th Lozada entered Rosario with 2,000 men and a battery of field-pieces.

Lieutenant Colonel Donato Guerra reports on the same day that he had a skirmish with the enemy at the port of Mazatlan, a short time before he left.

Six or seven hundred French and traitors, with four pieces of artillery, left the port on the 30th and camped at Palos Prietos. The next day they went to Higueras, and Lozada left Rosario for Agua Caliente.

While the enemy was taking all these turns, I missed several good opportunities for a fight.

At seven in the evening of the 31st I saw the citizen governor of the State, who had just come by forced marches from Culiacan. I consulted with him about the situation, and we agreed to attack Lozada on his march. Munitions arrived at ten at night, and our troops were supplied. The citizen governor started for Verde with forces to attack Lozada, and I set out towards Siqueros, to cut off the French.

On the 1st instant, at five in the morning, our scouts reported that the French from the port were advancing upon Siqueros. I ordered Colonel Parra to send Lieutenant Colonel Manuel Crespo, with a part of the Ramirez corps under Becerra, to Verde, and commanded Lieutenant Colonel Donato Guerra to watch the port with Crespo. General Gutierrez started towards Verde with the second brigade, but learned from General Rubi on the way that Lozada had entered Concordia, five leagues from Verde, on the morning of the 10th.

It was noon and our forces had not concentrated. Colonel Crespo informed me that the enemy had camped in front of Siqueros, five leagues from Verde, and our advance was in sight. It was agreed to attack Lozada in Concordia, and Noriega was sent to join Crespo with his infantry. Before reaching Concordia, General Rubi branched off to the left with a part of the first brigade and one cannon, and the Guias de Jalisco, to flank the enemy. General Gutierrez kept the main road with part of the second brigade, two cannons, the rest of the Ramirez corps, the Guias de la Libertad and the Hernandez corps. I followed General Gutierrez.

At six in the evening General Rubi began the attack on the left flank. General Gutierrez's column made an advance and established a battery that did good execution. The Degollado battalion threatened the right flank, and the rest of the infantry charged upon the centre boldly. The cavalry then came into action and rushed so desperately upon the enemy, that in less than one hour he scattered and left us masters of the town.

Night now came on, and as it was very dark, and our soldiers might fire on each other by mistake, I ordered General Rubi to beat a retreat in good order. This was elegantly executed under the direction of Colonel Alejandro Hernandez and Lieutenant Colonel Abel Pereira, both of my staff. The ground was so uneven here, I ordered part of the cavalry to Jacobo, and the rest, with the infantry, to Copala, postponing the attack indefinitely, as I knew the enemy was to be re-enforced the next morning.

Our losses are insignificant; but we have to lament the death of the brave and distinguished General José M. Gutierrez, chief of the second brigade, and of the valiant Colonel Onofre Campaña, from Cosala, leader of the Victoria bat-

talion. I don't know the enemy's loss; but it must be considerable, though half of the force scattered in dismay. I will give the particulars as soon as obtained.

The report of artillery on the 2d, in the direction of Siqueros, informed me that the enemy was resisting our troops in that quarter; so I ordered General Rubi to their assistance with infantry, while I went towards Bajio with the cavalry in the evening. Colonel Parra informed me that same day, the 2d, that he arrived at Jacobo at the same time with the Pameco battalion, under Colonel Martinez. Lozada attacked them at two that day with cavalry and infantry, but was routed and pursued as long as the ammunition held out. The enemy's killed are found all along the road from Jacobo as far as the pursuit lasted. We only had two soldiers killed. After a slight skirmish with the French that day, Crespo retired to Parras while they retreated to Cofradia, where they camped. Our men then returned to Siqueros.

On the morning of the 3d the French advanced upon Siqueros, but were driven back to Cofradia. One traitor was made prisoner. The French retreated next day to Presidio,

Colonel Guerra informed on the 4th that he approached the port the day before and provoked an attack from the enemy, with no bad results. He also says the French had joined Lozada, but their combined force is greatly demoralized.

That evening Guerra had a skirmish with the enemy at Palos Prietos. The gunboat Lucifer came up and our men had to retreat.

The same chief reports that on the morning of the 5th the French and Lozada were at Presidio, Pozole, and Garita; Lozada's forces so demoralized he could do nothing with them. Up to the last account Guerra's advance was at Palos Prietos, while he remained at Venadillo. A report from the same chief says that Captain Zuñiga, of the Miramontes corps, gave notice that the enemy was encamped at Urias and Castillo. Guerra was preparing to attack the port the next day; but learning that the French were advancing in force upon him, he retreated with the loss of one soldier, and the French re-enforcements succeeded in getting to the port.

As soon as I can ascertain the number of my killed and wounded, I will make an official report, from the 1st to the 5th.

I cannot be partial in the recommendation of my officers, for they have all done their duty; their courageous behavior has forced respect from the invaders, and has won the admiration of every republican. I cannot sufficiently praise the conduct of the inhabitants of the districts invaded by the hordes of Lozada. With the single exception of Rosario and Zavala, all the inhabitants left their houses and property to destruction.

The State of Sinaloa may be proud of her sons, for they are true patriots, preferring poverty to the protection of the invaders.

I make this communication for the information of the war department, by instructions from the general-in-chief of the united brigades, as well as for the information of the citizen President of the republic.

Independence and liberty! San Ignacio, April 7, 1866.

F. SEPULVEDA.

Citizen MINISTER OF WAR, *Paso del Norte.*

[Enclosure No. 5.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

By your report of the 7th of April, the citizen President of the republic is informed of the important movements of the general-in-chief of the united brigades

of Sinaloa and Jalisco, which broke up the expedition of Lozada and his French allies, by an attack at Concordia, forcing them to retreat in great disorder, and seek refuge in the port of Mazatlan, protected by the gunboat Lucifer, stationed there.

The citizen President instructs me to express his satisfaction at the courage of the officers and men who gained this great victory, the result of which is to embarrass the enemy and encourage our party to attack Mazatlan.

The citizen President regrets our losses, particularly the death of the valiant General José M. Gutierres and Colonel Onofre Campaña; also of Major Francisco Cruz Peña, and other officers and men who fell in the action, and contributed so much to its fortunate result. Please inform the general-in-chief of the united brigades of Sinaloa and Jalisco that the citizen President is much pleased with his conduct, and congratulates him on the happy results of the victory.

Independence and liberty! Paso del Norte, May 9, 1866.

MEJIA.

Citizen Governor and Military Commander
of the State of Sinaloa, Culiacan.

Paso del Norte, *May* 9, 1866.

True copies:

MARIANO DIAZ, *Chief Officer.*

[Enclosure No. 6.]

GOVERNMENT OF SONORA—REPUBLICAN ARMY, FIRST BRIGADE—GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

Citizen Governor: As I informed you, and not to remain inactive while forces are collecting for action inland, I ordered a movement, which has resulted in the disarming of certain towns. On the 2d instant I set out from Banamichi, in great haste, to surprise Opodepe and Tuape, where I captured seventy muskets and a few horses.

On the night of the 4th I halted four miles from Gucurpe, having unexpectedly come up with the enemy at that place. I proposed a parley, which was answered by shouts for the empire by the defenders of the place. Having rested sufficiently, and observing that the traitors were preparing for resistance, I ordered three companies to advance in different directions, till they came within speaking distance of the besieged. This operation lasted one hour; then firing began on both sides, and continued till 2 o'clock, when the imperialists were dislodged from the house-tops and towers they were occupying, thanks to our sharpshooters on the slope of a hill near by.

At 4 o'clock a signal for parley was made. The rebel chief offered to surrender with a guarantee of life. This was granted, and the following articles were given up: 120 muskets, two chests of ammunition, 118 cartridge-boxes, and a few lances.

The garrison consisted of 115 men, ten officers, the commander-in-chief, and ex-Lieutenant Colonel Don Manuel J. Castro.

Independence and liberty! Magdalena, April 6, 1866.

J. G. MORALES.

Citizen Governor and Military Commander
of the State of Sonora, (wherever he may be.)

A true copy:

G. MORALES.

No. 87.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 7, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 14th ultimo, transmitting a copy of No. 16 of the official paper of your government, publishing some correspondence on the military operations in Mexico, and to thank you for the information.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 88.

[Translation.]

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, July 6, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to remit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, a copy of No. 19 of the official newspaper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, published at Paso del Norte the 7th of June last, in which you will see the official report which General Pesqueira, governor of the State of Sonora, gave to the department of war and marine on the 10th of May last, of the military operations of the forces of the united brigades of Sonora and Jalisco, under his orders, and which resulted in the taking of the city of Hermosillo, which occurred on the 4th of May aforesaid.

This occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration is very gratifying to me.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.—Translation.—From the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, Paso del Norte, June 7, 1866.—Extracts.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMAND OF THE STATE OF SONORA—REPUBLICAN ARMY, UNITED BRIGADES OF SONORA AND JALISCO.

Under date of 8th May, General Martinez makes to these headquarters the report following:

On the 1st instant I set out from this point to attack Hermosillo; bivouacked in the field in front of San José de Pimas. On the 2d reached Zubiate, and at night halted near Hermosillo; at dawn reached the suburbs.

Before reaching Zubiate caught some scouts of the enemy; made three prisoners; the officer in command escaped.

Two leagues from Hermosillo we met some twenty men of the enemy's advance; killed three, took three, and scattered the rest. Among the killed was

the commander, the traitor Captain Estrada. Learned from the prisoners that Hermosillo was garrisoned by about 300 men, among them fifty of the Foreign Legion, all under orders of the traitor José M. Tranquilino Almada.

The scouting detachment, which took the direction of Guaymas, captured two officers—the one a Mexican, the other a Spaniard called José de la Rosa, adjutant to Almada. He was shot; the Mexican was forgiven.

The enemy was checked in several attempts to get off. He made a sally on the Guaymas route, which was covered by the scouting party under command of Petronilo Silvia. On the 4th I began the attack on the height defended by the Foreign Legion. At half past nine we were masters of the place; part of the Foreign Legion escaped with Almada. The enemy abandoned more than 200 muskets, two pieces of artillery and their munitions. I found many dead, most of the Foreign Legion. Our loss was small, about thirty killed and wounded.

Some repetition of the same report is made by Colonel Morales, which in due form is despatched to the government by Pesqueira, governor of Sonora.

[No other mention is made of foreigners than as members of the Foreign Legion; none whatever of American citizens.—Tr.]

No. 89.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

Department of State,
Washington, July 12, 1866.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 6th instant, containing a copy of No. 19 of the official paper of your government, giving an account of some military operations, and to thank you for the information.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don Matias Romero, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 90.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

Mexican Legation in the United States of America,
Washington, November 25, 1866.

Mr Secretary: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, the documents mentioned in the annexed index, mostly taken from the official paper of the Mexican republic, and consisting chiefly of official reports of military operations in the western military division of the Mexican republic, from July to September of the present year.

It is with pleasure I avail myself of the present opportunity of renewing to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. William H. Seward, *&c., &c., &c.*

Index of documents sent by the Mexican legation in Washington to the Department of State of the United States, with the note of this date, in relation to operations on the western military line.

No.	Date.	Contents.
	1866.	
1	June 23	General Rubi, governor of Sinaloa, transmits the official report of the battle of Yxcuintla.
2	July 18	The minister of war acknowledges the receipt of same.
3	June 30	Letter of General Pesquiera, governor of Sonora, to the consul of the republic in San Francisco, California, reporting his military movements in the months of May and June, 1866.
4	Aug. 14	General Martinez's official report of the capture of Hermosillo, in the State of Sonora.
5	Sept. 26	Minister of war's answer to same.
6	Sept. 2	Official report of the attack of Alamos.
7	Sept. 7	General Pesquiera's official report to the minister of war of the capture of Ures.
8	Oct. 5	Reply of the minister of war.
9	Sept. 14	Official report of General Corona, chief of the western army, of the battle of Palos Prietos, near Mazatlan.
10	Oct. 8	Reply of the minister of war.
11	Sept. 19	Correspondence from Mazatlan in regard to the situation on the western military line.
12	Sept. 21	Mazatlan correspondence on the same subject.

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary*

WASHINGTON, *November* 25, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.—From the government official paper, No. 21, Chihuahua, July 20, 1866.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF SINALOA.

The general-in-chief of the united brigades of Sinaloa and Jalisco reports as follows from that quarter:

"The citizen general, Perfecto Guzman, reports from Acaponeta on the 18th to these headquarters, as follows:

"'By special orders from headquarters, I set out from Cacalotan on the 8th for Santiago Izcuintla, with my brigade and Colonel Donato Guerra's cavalry, trying to keep our movements secret from the enemy, who discovered us by means of his scouts.

"'At 10 o'clock p. m. of the 13th I reached Arrayan plain, where, in consultation with Colonel Donato Guerra, Colonel Juan de Dios Bojas, and Lieutenant Colonel Andres Blancarte, I determined to divide our attacking forces as follows: On the centre were the Huajicori battalion of Colonel Cipriano Segundo, and the independents of Celso Cosio; on the right was the section of Colonel Camilo Isiordia; and on the left, Colonel Florencio Pacheco, with a cavalry section. The second Huajicori battalion, under Colonel Eligio Alvarez, and the Ocampo squadron, under Colonel Jesus Arteaga, and the Guzman squadron, under Francisco Lora, were held as reserves. With the forces so distributed, and my orders given, I marched to Santiago on the 14th by 8 o'clock in the morning. I ordered the attack upon the centre. The enemy, under Agaton Martinez and José Zapia, was assaulted so rudely he gave way and left us masters of the field after half an hour's fight. On the evening of the same day the enemy assembled on the opposite side of the river more than one hundred cavalry, and crossed back at Palomas ford to attack me. I ordered Colonel Guerra out with two

hundred cavalry to meet them; they took to flight, and were pursued two miles or more. The enemy lost thirty-one killed, among them an engineer and the commander of the place, both Frenchmen. Fifty prisoners, mostly natives, were captured; eight muskets, fourteen rifles, two sabres, three pistols, thirteen saddles, one hundred and two horses, and fifteen mules were taken.

"'On our side, Jesus Verdugo, second sergeant in the Ocampo squadron, was wounded. At night my men came into the town and remained three days, when we had to leave for want of provisions, coming to this place, where I am awaiting orders. I must commend to your consideration, chiefs, officers, and soldiers, for they all did their duty.'

"All of which I have the honor to communicate to you, and congratulate you on this new triumph for republican arms."

I send you a copy of this for your own information, and that you may communicate it to the war department. And I transcribe it for you, citizen minister, for your intelligence.

Independence and liberty! Recodo, June 23, 1866.

DOMINGO RUBI.

F. SEPULVEDA, *Secretary.*

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE, *(wherever he may be.)*

[Enclosure No. 2.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE—BUREAU OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

In your despatch of the 23d of June last, enclosing me the report of the general-in-chief of the united brigades of Sinaloa and Jalisco, of the same date, the President of the republic has had the pleasure to find a confirmation of the success of General Perfecto Guzman's expedition, with Colonel Donato Guerra, against Lozada's gang. We are glad to hear the enemy was whipped in the first encounter on the 8th, and the town of Santiago Izcuintla captured; also, that he was badly repulsed on the second attack, with the loss of thirty-one killed, one an officer of the place, and the other an engineer, and fifty prisoners taken, eight shot guns, fourteen muskets, two sabres, three pistols, thirteen saddles, one hundred and two horses, and fifteen mules.

The citizen President is much pleased to learn the success of the expedition, and the gallant behavior of the officers and men, to whom he requests me to present his thanks.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, July 18, 1866.

MEJIA.

The GOVERNOR AND MILITARY COMMANDER
of the State of Sinaloa, (wherever he may be.)

[Enclosure No. 3.]

ALAMOS, *June* 30, 1866.

MUCH ESTEEMED FRIEND: I received your welcome letter of the 30th of May yesterday; it gave me the more pleasure, with the news in it, as it is the only one I have had from you since December, when you sent me the President's permission to visit your city. I wrote to you then that I could not come on account of fever, which left me very weak, in spite of the active life I have led since March. I wrote to you also about the end of February, informing you I intended to take the field, but you say neither of the letters reached you.

I have heard of Mr. Gonzalez's aspirations, and the discredit he has brought upon himself by attempting to take the presidency from Mr. Juarez. He is so

blind he cannot see how false and ridiculous his position is. The political career of Gonzalez Ortega and his adherents furnishes us another example of those anomalies so frequent in this transition period, when a new germ of life is budding for the republic. Such is my hope, and I know our ills will end, because I trust in the prudence and energy of our worthy President and his brave collaborators in the work of moral reorganization.

It would make this letter too long to tell you all that has occurred since I quit my asylum in the territory of Arizona, and I will not trouble you with a detail of the causes that brought me to my present situation.

General Garcia Morales took the field four months before me, while I was sick, and did much good. Now conquering, then conquered, his constant activity did much to encourage the people of Sonora, who have never despaired of the country's safety. When I returned to the scene of action I found all disposed to join against the oppressors. If we seem slow in organizing our forces, it is because we are in want of arms that should have reached us long ago. However, I can say to you, we have got over the worst, and are now ready to give the traitors a finishing blow.

The forces of General Martinez united with mine, under the title of the united brigades of Sonora, Sinaloa, and Jalisco, attacked Almada in Hermosillo with four hundred men. Taken in force on the 4th of May, we had to fight six hours against Langberg and Tanori, who came up with eight hundred men. It was a hard-fought battle, and fortune began to favor us, when a panic demoralized our forces, just at the time the enemy started for Alamito, five leagues from Hermosillo, with nobody to pursue him. I merely mention this to show you what an opportunity we have lost from a small circumstance.

The battle-field was entirely deserted, but it was too late to rally in pursuit. General Martinez and I remained in Hermosillo till midnight, with an escort of only fifty cavalry, waiting for re-enforcements; but both the cavalry and infantry were too far from the field of action in different directions, and so the enemy had time to return and occupy the place the next day. In Langberg's report of the 6th of May there was but one truth. He said, "Our loss was considerable;" and he had a right to say so, for he lost more than half his forces in the two actions of the 4th.

Another expedition took place on the 5th of June on the same town, and as soon as our troops approached, the garrison disbanded, and left in our possession one rifled cannon, some provisions, and ninety muskets.

This was the time to have destroyed Tanori, who was present with all his forces, but fortune did not favor us this time either. The Indians routed a section of our forces under Alcontara, and thus frustrated our intentions. But the misfortune has only put us back a few months, when the enemy will have to be kept at bay by rangers.

Though the traitors have called upon the French in Guaymas to aid them, they have obtained no succor. They came out on the 29th of May with three hundred men to open the way, but finding we were ready for them they retreated to Cieneguita. But for that demonstration you would suppose the invaders did not care what became of their allies.

They are preparing to continue operations with more vigor, and I think we shall have an engagement by the end of next month, when I hope to have the pleasure to give you the news of the restoration of constitutional order in the whole State.

As ever, your affectionate friend and colleague,

I. PESQUIERA.

To Señor Don José Antonio Godoy,
Mexican Consul in San Francisco.

[Enclosure No. 4]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF SONORA.

General Angel Martinez, major general of the united brigades of Sonora, Sinaloa, and Jalisco, on the 14th, reports as follows:

REPUBLICAN ARMY, UNITED BRIGADES, GENERAL'S QUARTERS.

I have the honor to report operations to you from the time we left Cumuripa till our occupation of this place. On the 23d ultimo the Sinaloa and Juarez defenders, with Colonel José T. Otero's forces, met in Cumuripa, and started next day to the Suaqui mines. We reached Tecoripa on the 25th. The Sonora battalion, under Otero, was sent from Suaqui to attack the traitor Arvallo in San Javier. A hard rain impeded his operations, and gave the enemy a chance to escape. He was pursued, and two prisoners were taken from Campos, who left his horse and escaped on foot. Colonel Otero accomplished this bold feat.

On the 28th we left Tecoripa and camped for the night at Cumbros On the 29th we reached Adivino, and came to Matape by the 30th. From that place a message was sent to General Jesus Garcia Morales, ordering him forward with the forces he had. At Pitiquito we heard he had suffered a reverse, and of course could not come to Matape. By forced marches on the 12th and 13th, we reached this city by your orders, where we surprised the garrison of 150 men, who ran off and left their guns in our possession.

We pursued the enemy and killed nine, and two wounded were sent to the hospital. It was the 13th when we occupied the place, and we go into quarters to-day. All preparation is made for the enemy, in case he returns to attack us.

The inhabitants welcomed us as their real deliverers, and you know our soldiers have done their duty as defenders of the honor and independence of our dear country.

I felicitate you cordially on the conclusion of a campaign that restores the legitimate State government in the principal city of Sonora.

Independence and liberty! Hermosillo, August 14, 1866.

ANGEL MARTINEZ.

The GENERAL-IN-CHIEF, *Present.*

In transmitting the above to you, I will add, that you may make it known to the President of the republic, that notwithstanding the sufferings of our soldiers, none have deserted, and all are cheerful; and the way in which the citizens offer their services to the government is the most conclusive proof of the hate the citizens have for the empire, except the traitors of Gandara.

Independence and liberty! Hermosillo, August 17, 1866.

IGNACIO PESQUIERA.
J. J. AVILA, *First Officer.*

The MINISTER OF WAR.

[Enclosure No 5.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, BRANCH OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

The citizen President of the republic has had the pleasure of receiving your despatch of the 17th of August last, enclosing that of the 14th, from General Angel Martinez, reporting his operations from the 23d up to date, when he dispersed the traitor forces under Arvallo, and occupied Hermosillo on the 13th of August, surprising the garrison.

Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, September 26, 1866.

MEJIA.

General IGNACIO PESQUIERA,
Governor and Military Commander of the State of Sonora, in Hermosillo.

[Enclosure No. 6.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF CHIHUAHUA—REPUBLICAN ARMY, MATAMORAS SECTION—COMMANDANT'S QUARTERS.

At half-past ten this day, the traitor José Tranquilino Almada, with two hundred cavalry armed with sabres and muskets, and 400 foot rifles of Pimas and Yaquis, and 600 Jara Indians of Yaquis and Mayos, appeared on Crucecito hill, and threatened the town, garrisoned by 130 cavalry and 350 infantry, including my command. We instantly marched out to meet them at Aurora, where they had halted. Finding they were trying to surround the town, the commander divided us into three columns.

The enthusiasm of our soldiers amounted to frenzy, and in one hour of fierce combat a most glorious day was gained for the country. The enemy, frightened by the fury of our brave republicans, cowardly fled in every direction, leaving fourteen loads of ammunition, sixty-seven fire-arms, most of them fine French rifles, a few horses and lances, &c. We also found scattered arms and ammunition in the tents, that have not yet been removed, and the correspondence of the traitor Almada, who escaped with his sons and six officers over the hills. They were pursued by our men, guided by one of Almada's deserters, and it is hoped he may be overtaken.

Sixty-seven killed of the enemy have been found on the battle-field, and thirteen out of twenty-one prisoners were shot. On our side, we regret the death of two of our cavalry, and nine men wounded, two of the Matamoras section. This explains the dread of the enemy for our soldiers.

All the chiefs, officers, and men engaged in this action behaved gallantly, and merit commendation; but I will confine myself to my own command, and say I am satisfied with all my officers and men, but particularly with citizens Edward Valenzuela, Martin Salido, Vicente S. Ampudia, and Jesus and Juan Salido, who came to us in the beginning of the action, and conducted themselves with exceeding bravery.

Please accept my congratulations, and felicitate the governor of the State on this triumph of the national arms over traitors, and commend the patriots of the canton for the part they took in the engagement.

Independence and liberty! Alamos, September 2, 1866.

JOSÉ M. BARBEITIA.

The CIVIL CHIEF *of the Canton of Matamoras.*

GUAZAPARES, *September* 6, 1866.

A true copy:

JOSÉ M. ZEA.

[Enclosure No. 7.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF SONORA.

General A. Martinez, major general of the united brigades, communicated to me yesterday, the following report:

Ensign Epifanio Casanova, chief of our explorers, arrived at Rayon on the 2d instant, with the news that a portion of the enemy's cavalry, numbering fifty, had fallen upon us at Noria de Aquilar, killing two out of the ten men there. Lieutenant Colonel Nicolas Gonzales was instantly sent out with cavalry in pursuit, joined by Santiago Valle.

On the 3d Nicolas Gonzales had a skirmish with the enemy that seemed to be going to Rayon. We instantly sallied out to meet him. He took the strong position at Huerta, and we encamped on a neighboring hill. Our cavalry soon joined us, leaving Captain Casildo Manjarrez to watch the enemy two miles from us.

The Tepic lancers, under Captain Severiano Sanchez, came up the next day with twenty men to watch the enemy. As our forces were not acquainted with the ground, the enemy intercepted the communication with us; but, after a slight skirmish, they got back safely to our camp.

The enemy was still at Huerta on the 4th, and to dislodge him we came to this place. Before arriving at Noria we caught an enemy's scout, who told us his force was of 1,000 men of all arms, and four pieces of light artillery, commanded by the traitor Tanori. On the way we had notice that General Jesus G. Morales was about to join us with a small force of infantry and cavalry.

At Noria de Gandara we came up with the Sonora cavalry, under José Pesquiera. Before reaching Bajadero three of the enemy's spies were captured, who told us that Langberg had just passed, with an escort of only fifteen men, going to join Tanori. He was pursued, but not taken. We halted a while at the Bajadero, and then went on to Guadalupe, to make it the base of our operations. The western brigades crossed the river at the ford to skirmish with the enemy; and the Sonora brigade, under Antonio Rincon, remained to wait for General Jesus G. Morales. We had hardly got to Santa Rita when Colonel Davalos informed us that Rincon told him the enemy, under Langberg and Tanori, had fallen upon him, and he was retreating. We soon heard the report of fire-arms, and the enemy soon made his appearance on an eminence in front of Santa Rita, his sharpshooters pursuing our cavalry. To protect our baggage I had it gathered on Santa Rita hill, and guarded by Colonel Miguel Silva. We then began our retreat in order, though much harassed by the enemy attacking us on all sides.

Under these circumstances, I determined to risk a battle, and I sent Colonel Davalos with his Sonora defenders and hunters to secure a retreat. In our retreat two of our wagons stuck in the mud and could not be got out, and a wounded man in one of them was killed by the enemy. This incident made the traitors think our forces demoralized and in full retreat.

The Sonora cavalry of José Pesquiera was not in the action, because it was called off on other duty.

The western cavalry brigade came upon the town by the Paso de Aguilar, and went on to Guadalupe, where the roar of cannon indicated the battle that was going on. The enemy was attacking the hunters, who defended themselves bravely. The first Sonora battalion, under Prospero Salazar, formed on our right to protect our flank passage. All this was done while the battle was going on. The enemy began by charging our right flank, and was beaten back to his original position by the Sonora battalion. We were now opportunely re-enforced by the second Sonora battalion, under Tiburcio Otero. I ordered the hunters to attack two pieces of artillery of the enemy. It was done successfully, and the enemy was repulsed in every direction. Our cavalry charged his left flank and routed it. Captain Fuentes, with a few men, took one of the pieces of artillery and two prisoners. The other piece of artillery was left on the field. Langberg, chief of the traitors, was killed in the fight.

I then headed the cavalry to prevent the enemy from finding refuge in this city, and was successful in my attempt.

The behavior of our men was admirable; our artillery was well managed and did good service. The enemy, of more than 1,000 men, was routed by 500 of ours, as many of our men could not participate.

On the fifth we struck our tents and took possession of Guadalupe, where we remained till the night of the fourth. We had ten killed and eighteen wounded. The enemy had forty-two killed and many wounded, escaping to the mountains.

On the morning of the fifth, the first and second Sonora and Juarez battalions, with two pieces of artillery, under Colonel Adolfo Alcantara, left Guadalupe and joined me the next day.

We now determined to advance on the city, where there was a garrison of

300 men under Teran y Barrios. We afterwards learned that Teran, Arvallo, and Tanori, overcome by fear, had taken to flight; so the imperialist band in Sonora evaporated like smoke from pure fright.

An order for surrender was sent in, without humiliating conditions, but was refused, and at one o'clock the siege was begun.

General Jesus G. Morales now came up with seventy men, and was received by shouts from us. He said he had shot Pioquinto Griego, one of the imperial partisans.

The Gonzales battalion, under Salva, assaulted one of the forts, took it, and gained a piece of artillery. He then marched on to another, but was unfortunately killed, with Colonel Rochin. Captain Joaquin Fuentes was badly wounded, as well as the second adjutant, Salvador Alvarez. Antonio Slanes and Roman Ruisanchez were killed at the same time. They were common soldiers.

The next attack was on the fort called La Correccion by the second Sonora battalion under Otero, and the first under Colonel Salazar; Colonels Davalos and Alcantara were to direct operations around the place. At this stage the enemy quit the Correccion and fired as he left, wounding Major Jesus Chaves.

At one o'clock in the morning the enemy left in complete confusion. Those defending the Correccion were double traitors, because they left eighty men on the parapet, and they were captured; they also left three pieces of artillery, their ammunition, and one hundred mules. The enemy had forty killed, and lost one hundred and sixty prisoners. There were four foreigners among the killed.

The morning of the sixth dawned to find no imperialists in the town. The capture of Ures cost us no great loss, but the lives of some valuable men, mostly belonging to the battalion of cazadores. I congratulate you on this extermination of the so called imperial government in this State.

I do not mean to say we are done, but the hardest work is over, and we may soon hope for a general peace in this State.

Independence and liberty! Ures, September 7, 1866.

ANGEL MARTINEZ.

The GENERAL-IN-CHIEF, *Present.*

In having the honor to transmit this to your department, for the information of the President of the republic, I must say the officers and men of the united brigades behaved gallantly, and made themselves worthy the consideration of the government of the republic and the gratitude of the people of Sonora. I cannot particularize persons, because many were prevented from taking part in the combat.

Independence and liberty! Ures, September 8, 1866.

I. PESQUIERA.
J. F. AVILA,
Chief Officer.

The WAR DEPARTMENT, *in Chihuahua.*

[Enclosure No. 8.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, BRANCH OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

The citizen President of the republic has heard of the operations communicated in General Angel Martinez's despatch of the 7th, and sent to me on the 8th. He is pleased to hear of the defeat of Tanori and Langberg and the death of the latter, as well as of the capture of the city. The conduct of the chiefs, officers, and men who took part in the action is duly appreciated by the

supreme magistrate of the nation, and the importance of the triumph will tend to drive the traitors out of the State, and, perhaps, frighten them out of the republic. Independence and liberty. Chihuahua, October 5, 1866.

MEJIA.

General IGNACIO PESQUIERA, *Governor and Military Commander of the State of Sonora, at Ures, (or wherever he may be.)*

[Enclosure No. 9.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—ARMY OF THE WEST—QUARTERS OF THE GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

In order to beat the garrison of Palos Prietos, an outpost of Mazatlan, one mile distant, a few days ago I sent riflemen from the line of Urias and Piedra to harass the enemy at night in his position, so that, getting used to that system, he would become careless and suffer himself to be surprised. For that purpose I set out from Unionville, on the 10th, with the 1st and 2d infantry brigades, a part of the 4th, and some of the 5th and 6th cavalry.

The bad state of the roads, caused by hard rains, deranged the preconcerted combination, and I determined to wait a day longer, covering my plan by shooting towards the town. At 2 o'clock on the morning of the 12th I sent a column of infantry, under General Domingo Rubi, with five pieces of mountain artillery and ammunition for it, to wait as a reserve. I then ordered another infantry column, under General Ascencion Correa, with the cavalry of Colonel E. Parra, to take a position between the port and Palos Prietos. Another infantry column, under General Manuel Marquez, was commanded to attack the front and right flank of the enemy in his fortified position. All these commands were faithfully executed, and the principal entrance of Palos Prietos was attacked by bayonets in the hands of the valiant soldiers of the above named columns.

The rough ground, the darkness of the night, and the perfect knowledge the defenders had of their position, allowed all not killed to escape. Over 150 killed were found upon the battle-field. On our side were 27 killed and 67 wounded. Among those killed was Commander Legaspi, and other worthy officers, who perished gloriously mounting the enemy's parapets. I will send their names and those of the men killed, in a separate paper, as soon as the proper information is obtained.

I waited here for the enemy till convinced he would not come out, because expected aid had not arrived; and knowing the gunboats would open upon us as soon as it was day, I retired a short distance, leaving Colonel Francis Tolentino to watch the enemy. He would not venture out of his trenches, but plied his artillery vainly upon us. Thinking if I retreated he would follow me, I ordered my forces to quarter at Venadillo, Higueras, and Urias.

My Correa column was in the rear, and 70 Africans attacked it, till 100 Jalisco cavalry and 80 liberty guides came up to its aid. The former was commanded by Colonel Simon Gutierrez, the latter by Colonel L. Pintado. The enemy fled before them, leaving 17 killed and one commandant and 17 Arab horses in our possession. On this account we may be assured the enemy lost, in killed and wounded, 200 men, mostly French, without counting one officer and 20 men, mounted and armed, that came over to the republican side, bringing five traitors and one French sutler as prisoners, the last of which was shot by them. The enemy is badly demoralized; so much so I think they will evacuate the port, for they seem to be making preparations now.

As the French and traitors did not return in force to occupy Palos Prietos, I

ordered it to be garrisoned by some troops from this army corps, withdrawing the rest to their former positions.

This I communicate to you for the information of the supreme magistrate of the nation.

Independence and liberty. Villa de Union, September 14, 1866.

RAMON CARONA.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE, *in Chihuahua.*

[Enclosure No. 10.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

The citizen President of the republic has received, with the greatest satisfaction, your despatch of the 14th to me, communicating the news of the glorious victory of the 12th, at Palos Prietos, one mile from Mazatlan, killing over 150 of the enemy dead on the field, besides 18 cavalry that charged on the rear of the Degollado battalion, which was retiring to its quarters at Venadillo, Higueras, and Urias, as you ordered, with the hope of attacking the enemy again in the same fort, if he came back; but seeing that he did not, on the other hand, concentrating along the line of the port, you ordered the troops of this army corps to occupy the fort permanently, and the rest to retire to their former positions.

Independence and liberty. Chihuahua, October 8, 1866.

MEJIA.

To General RAMON CORONA,
Chief of the Western Army Corps, at Villa de Union.

[Enclosure No. 11.]

MAZATLAN, MEXICO, *September* 19, 1866.

Since my last, matters in Sinaloa have been much the same as at my previous dates, Corona annoying the French in every way possible. From his batteries on Holderness island he easily threw shells into the town, which have done some little damage. To drive him from the Garita, the French troops were sent to occupy Palos Prietas, and Corona fell back to the Presidio On the 11th instant, however, the Mexicans surrounded the imperialists, drove them from their garrison, captured two guns, and held the works until the French were re-enforced from this city.

In this battle, the most severe engagement they have yet had, the French lost 150 killed and wounded; the imperial Mexicans admit their loss to be 300; and it is said that Corona lost 250. After being so roughly handled, Palos Prietas was evacuated by the French, who retired to their fortification at Mazatlan.

The Continental arrived to-day from Guaymas, bringing some important news from Sonora, which I give as I had it from a passenger:

OCCUPATION OF HERMOSILLO.

General Pesquiera occupied Hermosillo about the middle of August, where he was enthusiastically received. Colonel Fistier, commanding the French at Guaymas, left that city with his entire force on the 18th ultimo, to join Lanberg and Tanori, and drive Pesquiera from Hermosillo. The heat was intense, and he lost several men by sun-stroke during the march. On his arrival at Hermosillo, on the 24th, he found that Pesquiera had left the day previous,

with many wagons loaded with supplies, &c. Lanberg and Tanori did not care to act in concert with the French, thinking the liberals were too strong to admit of an attack. The entire failure of the expedition from Guaymas, the loss of his men, and care and anxiety had so depressed Colonel Fistier that he put a pistol ball through his head to end his misery and disgrace. Colonel Fistier had been for some time in command of the French troops at Guaymas, and his gentlemanly conduct and conciliatory bearing had won him the esteem of every one.

LIBERAL SUCCESSES.—CAPTURE OF URES.

About the first of the month, General Martinez, of the liberal forces, marched to attack Ures, which was defended by Generals Lanberg and Tanori, the Yaqui Indians, who have of late been so successful in their battles.

The principal fight took place on the 4th instant, at Guadaloupe, a small town some eight leagues from Ures. It was very severely contested, but ended in the utter defeat and rout of the imperialists. Lanberg was killed, and Tanori escaped to Guaymas, where he arrived on the 10th, with about half a dozen men. It is said that when the death of Lanberg was reported to Martinez he discredited it, whereupon a Mexican soon rode up, dragging the body of the unfortunate general with his riata. The body was afterwards hung to a tree and death threatened any person who should cut it down. The same day Martinez moved on to Ures, which was garrisoned by some three hundred men, who, ignorant of the fight at Guadaloupe, gave battle, and were utterly cut to pieces. No quarter was given, and the place was sacked by the soldiers.

EVACUATION OF GUAYMAS.

On the 11th instant, notice was given that Guaymas would be evacuated on the 13th, and that those of the inhabitants would be taken who chose to go. At the same time, a fearful picture was drawn of the destruction of life and property that would ensue on the arrival of the liberals.

Many of the poor people fled the place, and all of the French merchants took refuge on board the ships-of-war. On the 13th, the transport Rhin and another vessel sailed, crowded with troops and passengers. Before leaving, however, the French filled several boats with arms and ammunition for the Yaqui Indians, telling them that after their departure the city would be at their (the Yaqui's) mercy, and that there was plenty of booty in it for them. The utmost consternation prevailed when the dastardly act was known in the city. The Americans placed themselves under the orders of Consul Conner, a home-guard was organized, and every precaution taken against surprise.

The house of the consul was crowded with people seeking protection, and his warerooms were filled with merchandise and personal effects. On the evening of the 14th instant the city was illuminated, and on the morning of the 15th nearly half the houses were decorated with American flags. That same day, at 9 o'clock in the morning, General Martinez entered the city with a small body of cavalry—the greater portion of his force having been sent to clean out the Yaqui Indians. Soon after his arrival he took formal possession of the Plaza, and issued a proclamation guaranteeing protection in their persons and property to all who remained quietly at home, and denouncing in strong terms the misrepresentations made by the French on their departure. Wonderful to relate, an American man-of-war was in the harbor—the Saranac having that morning arrived. When people were told of it, they would not credit it. "Tell us," said they, "that a man-of-war is here to protect us!" But really, is it not strange, that with all the American interest at stake in Sonora and Sinaloa, and Lower California, we have had no vessels here to look

out for us? There are enough on the coast, but the commanders find Panama and Acapulco, where they can get New York and San Francisco papers three times a month, in more need of their presence than we are. "That's what's the matter."

EVACUATION OF GUAYMAS.

[Enclosure No. 12.]

MAZATLAN, *September* 21, 1866.

In giving you the news from this place I can only mention one or two occurrences that I could flatter myself would, in the least degree, interest your numerous readers. First and most important is the evacuation of Guaymas by the French and imperial forces, which took place on the 12th instant, and the place was immediately occupied by the liberal forces.

CORONA'S MOVEMENTS.

Next on the tapis comes the attack of Corona on the advanced positions of this place which took place on the night of the 11th or morning of the 12th, at 2½ a. m., by Corona advancing at the head of four thousand men to within a quarter of a mile of Palos Prietas (a fortified palisade, about two miles from the Plaza,) and, under cover of the darkness, throwing about seven hundred men, under command of Colonels Grenados and Martinez, in the rear of the fort, thereby cutting off communication with the town, and at three o'clock a. m. a simultaneous attack was made on the rear, side and front of the south wing of the position, which, after three charges, was entered from the rear, Grenados taking one piece of artillery and gaining possession of the imperial magazine.

At this critical moment for the small garrison, (commanded by Captain Delatask and composed of one hundred and eighty French and Mexican troops,) Captain Delatask called for volunteers to retake the piece, when Lieutenant Maire of the sixty-second French regiment, at the head of forty men, advanced to the charge at the point of the bayonet, and succeeded in reaching the cannon and cutting down those loading it, but he encountered so deadly a fire from all sides that he was compelled to retire; but as it was life or death to the garrison, he again rallied, and, at the head of twenty-five men, succeeded this time in taking the piece and turning it on the enemy, when two companies from the north side being ordered to en-enforce him, they succeeded in clearing the works and steadily maintained their position, and keeping up a rapid discharge of musketry until re-enforcements under Commander Robiero reached them from the city, (who had to fight their way to the place through the liberal forces there stationed, and did not reach their hotly pressed comrades until after four o'clock a. m.,) when the garrison continued to hold the enemy in check until the battalion of Cazadores and cavalry arrived and a general advance was made, driving the liberals back, and at ten o'clock all was over save random shooting.

The utmost bravery is said to have been exhibited by both sides. Captain Delatask is highly spoken of for his coolness and bravery during so trying a time, keeping back by a handful of determined soldiers such a superior force. Lieutenant Maire is now enjoying the praise of all for his daring feats in facing almost certain death for the preservation of the garrison. Colonel Grenados, of the attacking party, is said to have had three horses and a mule killed under him, and several bullets pierced his clothing and beard, but he received no wound—a strange occurrence, as it is said of him he never was in a battle before without receiving from one to a half a dozen. In the advance of the imperial troops in the morning, the chasseurs d'Afrique, with their fine Arabians, were drawn into an ambuscade and were roughly handled, losing some very valuable

horses and a good many men. Alonzo Ridley, an American, received a commission as captain in the imperial service, on the field of battle.

AFTER THE BATTLE.

The sight which met the eye of the beholder after the fight was horrible beyond description, most of the dead having been killed by the bayonet, sword, or machetas of the contending parties, and gave evidence with what desperation the defence had been made, when only massacre stared them in the face.

MISCELLANEOUS.

News from Guaymas gives account of the killing of General Langberg of the imperial army.

City of Mexico papers announce the death of Frank Mullen, (an ex-officer of the confederate army, and since in command of Contra Guerrillas with Mejia,) at Cordova, of fever.

Many are looking forward to the evacuation of this place by the imperialists, but considerable doubt is expressed as to it since the news of President Johnson's proclamation in regard to blockading, and it is now thought by many that it will be held until the final evacuation of the country by the French.

[Enclosure No. 13.]

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
Guaymas, September 11, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the evacuation of this port and the State of Sonora by the French squadron and land forces will take place on the 14th instant. I have been officially informed of this fact by the admiral in command. The preparations for embarcation which have been going on for a few days, and the fact of the withdrawal of these forces, have created a panic among the population, both native and foreign, and, in consequence, the steamer which leaves on the 13th for Mazatlan and San Francisco will be crowded beyond her capacity. The French portion of the community, and Mexicans who have been compromised, or who have given support to the empire, are making every exertion to escape the almost certain retribution which awaits them at the hands of the incoming liberals. The merchants and respectable families not compromised in these political difficulties, apprehending danger from the lower classes during the interim of the withdrawal of the French troops and the entering of the liberal forces have sought the protection of this consulate, as no one here appeared to be able to suggest or move in a plan to protect the place from rapine or murder. I informed the admiral and the commander of the place that I would communicate the fact and the time of the withdrawal of the troops to General Pesquiera, chief of the liberal forces of the State, in order that he might be ready to take possession immediately, and thereby guarantee order and security. With the approval of these officers I have despatched a messenger to General Pesquiera with this information and with an appeal to his generosity in behalf of those who are threatened with ruin, and who are now preparing to flee the country. I trust his answer will be conciliatory and humane. The knowledge of the fact of my having communicated with Pesquiera has restored quiet to the place, and many hope yet to be able to remain in their homes. The steamer for San Francisco will leave on the 13th, when I may be able to report the city quiet again in the possession of the officers of the constitutional government.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD CONNER.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington City, D. C.

No. 91.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 8, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 25th ultimo, containing certain documents regarding the late military operations in the western military division of the Mexican republic, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 4.

MILITARY OPERATIONS OF THE CENTRAL DIVISION.

List of Papers.

92. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with one enclosure).....April 24, 1866.
93. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....July 7, 1866.
94. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with three enclosures).....Aug. 22, 1866.
95. Mr. Hunter to Mr. Romero.....Aug. 28, 1866.
96. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with one enclosure).....Sept. 21, 1866.
97. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Sept. 24, 1866.

No. 92.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, April 24, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, a copy of a letter from General N. Regules, chief of the army of the centre, dated March 7, in Uruapam, and addressed to the President of the United States of Mexico, showing the state of affairs in the line of his command, and giving some details in relation to his last important victory over the interventionists at Magdalen Heights, in the State of Michoacan.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to repeat to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure.]

URUAPAM, *March* 7, 1866.

SIR: By virtue of instructions from the government, through its commissioner, Don Pablo Haro, I was appointed chief of the republican army of the centre on the 27th day of last February. Feeling myself unqualified to fill the position in which I had been placed, without deserving it, I accepted it, only to do my duty to the supreme government

My first efforts will be to organize forces and regulate taxes, believing these to be my most important duties at first, because the want of arms is general in the State, and, in fact, all munitions of war are scarce. I believe the task will be hard; but I am determined to begin with the towns in Guanajuato, and in the first and second districts of Mexico; and for that purpose I have applied to many friends in those places who have always been faithful to the cause of liberty. I have urged them to help us, and I think they will, for the greatest crime a republican can commit is to kneel to a feeble tyrant, so easy to be overturned; and I told them so. The invitation I made them involves a kind of accusation, but they are good patriots.

I am sure that while the enemy's attention is attracted to places already in insurrection, I will be able to hoist the standard of liberty in my district, and maintain a defensive till other States can organize to aid me.

The people of Michoacan have suffered immensely; they have not ceased to fight the invader since he first desecrated their soil, using every lawful means. This shows they are not wanting in patriotism, even in their greatest troubles, and, with a little aid, they would soon replant the banner of liberty in the heroic land. If the government will furnish them with arms and pecuniary resources, this will be accomplished in less than two months, I can assure you.

On the 20th of February last my first division and part of the second had an encounter with the column of the traitor Ramon Mendez, of 2,500 men. The fight occurred on the Magdalen Heights, near this city. Our force was 1,500 men, poorly armed and equipped, and without artillery; while the enemy had all the conveniences of warfare. They lost one cannon, all their ammunition, baggage, a large sum of money, and half of their forces. Our loss also was considerable. I am now hunting our scattered men and picking up the arms, &c., left by the enemy. They took a few prisoners from us, but we captured a large number of their infantry, with good muskets and bayonets.

On the 23d of April last I applied to the government for honorary decorations for my brave chiefs, officers, and soldiers, who took the town of Codallos, defended by 350 Belgians and 50 traitors. It was not simply on account of the fact of taking the place that I asked the reward of honor, but on account of the peculiar circumstances under which it was done. From the 8th of April to the 11th my forces marched sixty leagues to assault Codallos, at six o'clock in the morning of that day. We fought six hours and exhausted all the ammunition; not a cartridge was left; but my braves charged bayonet, and gained a complete victory. The chiefs and officers who fell on that day deserve the attention of the government, and I will send a list of their names to the proper department that they may be remembered.

If the government is pleased to accord to my soldiers the reward I ask, I hope you will communicate its orders to me, and accept my sincere gratitude, with protests of respect and consideration.

N. DE REGULES.

Señor DON BENITO JUAREZ,
President of the United States of Mexico.

WASHINGTON, *April* 24, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 93.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 7, 1866.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 24th of April last, in which you transmit for the information of the government of the United States copy of a letter addressed to the President of the republic of Mexico by General N. Regules, commanding the army of the centre, with regard to certain military affairs in his command, and to beg of you to accept my thanks for the information.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 94.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, August 22, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, copies of two letters I received to-day from General Nicolas de Regules, chief of the central army of the republic, dated in San Antonio de las Huertas, the 16th of May last and the 7th of June following, which show the state of affairs on the central military division commanded by General Regules, who has commanded that line, and specially the condition of things in the State of Michoacan.

I also enclose you copies of portions of a letter from General Juan Alvarez, chief of the army of the south, dated in Providencia, State of Guerrero, the 29th of June last, containing some news from the army of the centre.

I embrace the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

SAN ANTONIO DE LAS HUERTAS,
May 16, 1866.

DEAR SIR: I wrote to you on the 3d of last month from this place, acknowledging the receipt of your despatches, and informing you of the condition of the army under my command, so that you might use your influence to induce the government of the republic to give me the aid necessary to carry out my plans.

As important events have occurred in Michoacan since I wrote you, I will proceed to give you an account of them, hoping you will appreciate them properly, and do your best to have the supplies I need so much sent to me.

As the imperialists knew they would have a powerful enemy to their organization as long as the army of the centre was permitted to exist, though reduced to a skeleton, determined to destroy it at all hazards; they, therefore, sent an expedition of six thousand men against our seven hundred naked, ill-armed, and suffering soldiers. They came to the attack in three columns, perfectly organized; the plan of their campaign could not be better, for they could force me to fight and destroy me, or compel me to fall back upon the State of Guerrero, with my ragged, starving, needy soldiers, where they would certainly perish of famine, as that country is entirely destitute of supplies.

But the expedition failed, because the two columns of four thousand French had to go into the interior of the republic on account of defeats in the borders of the States of Jalisco and Guanajuata. Thus deserted, the traitors abandoned the towns they had occupied, and concentrated on a line they thought more easy of defence.

My troops did not suffer as much as was expected, because I left the unhealthy situation where I had been camped, and moved to the enemy's rear with the cavalry, and continued to annoy him till my infantry had passed the Balsas river. I was pleased to see my men endure all sorts of hardships patiently, thus showing how patriots can suffer.

So here we are again, after a march of one hundred leagues through a sickly and destitute country, and my forces have increased in numbers, thanks to General Alvarez, who gave me arms for them; and my cavalry have improved, so we are almost ready to march upon the enemy.

So you will see, Mr. Minister, I only want arms and means to place the central army in a respectable condition, and I hope you will try to procure me both.

Your very obedient servant,

N. DE REGULES.

Minister DON MATIAS ROMERO, *Washington.*

WASHINGTON, *August* 22, 1866.

A true copy:

F. D. MACIN, *2d Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.]

SAN ANTONIO DE LAS HUERTAS,
June 7, 1866.

DEAR SIR: In reply to your two very acceptable letters of the 1st and 29th of April, which I only received yesterday, I must inform you that I received your others, with the official despatches, in due time, and answered them, and I hope the answers have reached you by this time. I spoke of my situation and my wants with great frankness in those letters, and begged you to use all your influence in procuring me aid, by writing to the government to give the necessary aid to the army of the centre, particularly if the loan has been effected.

As I told you, I have continued to labor without ceasing to increase and organize my forces in spite of the great scarcity of resources with which I have to contend, and the want of arms and ammunition.

The imperialists are so demoralized at the report of the withdrawal of the French army, and the certainty of no more aid from abroad, that I have no doubt I could vanquish them; but the interests intrusted to me are so sacred I will not risk it unless I have the elements to insure success. If the government will send me the aid I have asked I will attack at once; but I repeat to you that, even if I do not get it, I will not be discouraged, and will work on faith-

fully and diligently; and I trust my delay will not be attributed to any other causes than those I have mentioned.

I hope you will continue to favor me with your letters, while I remain your respectful and obedient servant,

N. DE REGULES.

Minister DON MATIAS ROMERO, *Washington.*

WASHINGTON, *August* 22, 1866.

A true copy:

F. D. MACIN,
Second Secretary of Legation.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

LA PROVIDENCIA, *June* 29, 1866.

SIR: General Diaz has left this place with eight hundred men from this state for Chantla, a town in the state of Puebla, occupied by a band of traitors. I will write you the result of the expedition by the next mail.

General Regules remains at San Antonio de las Huertas reorganizing and collecting supplies to continue the campaign in Michoacan. I enclose you two papers which he requested me to send you.

I remain your obedient servant,

JUAN ALVAREZ.

Mr. MATIAS ROMERO.

WASHINGTON, *August* 22, 1866.

A true copy:

F. D. MACIN,
Second Secretary of Legation.

No. 95.

Mr. Hunter to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 28, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 22d instant, containing copy of two letters addressed to you by General Don Nicolas de Regules, and of portions of letters addressed to you by General Don Juan Alvarez, on the subject of the military affairs of the republic of Mexico, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

W. HUNTER.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

[No. 96.]

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, September 21, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY AD INTERIM: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, a copy of a letter I received to-day from General Nicolas Regules, chief of the army of the centre of the Mexican republic, dated in the city of Zitacuaro the 12th of July last, giving particulars of the state of affairs in the part of the country occupied by the army of the centre.

I am pleased to have this occasion to renew to you, sir, the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. FREDERICK W. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure.]

ZITACUARO, *July* 12, 1866.

MUCH ESTEEMED SIR: I hereby acknowledge the receipt of the documents, relating to the withdrawal of the French from Mexican territory, which you had the kindness to send me with your circular of the 26th of April last.

You cannot imagine my satisfaction at learning that the United States had favored us with their protection, without any solicitation on our part, and that now we have no fear of a difficulty with that neighboring nation, on that account.

I am particularly pleased with this act of our government, because we are exempt from all blame and must appear worthy before the world. I commend you for your participation in the act, and heartily congratulate you on it; and I hope you will make my sentiments in regard to it known to the government.

As I presume you have received my former letters and documents, mentioning my movements, I will confine myself in this to the most recent events in the army under my command.

I remained in San Antonio de las Huertas more than a month, organizing and drilling the forces that form the basis of the army corps under my command; but as it was very sickly there, and the supplies were nearly exhausted, I determined to make a raid upon this place, from the good accounts I had of it. I effected this on the 1st instant, without opposition, the enemy having evacuated it on my approach, and fallen back to Anganguco and Maravatio.

As my force and ammunition are not sufficient to allow me to attack the two places, I remain here. The neighboring towns are armed, and are determined to defend themselves, even if I leave them. Cavalry companies are organizing in the districts of Tacambaro and Ario, and are busy annoying the enemy.

The district of Apatzigan, once not very friendly, has now arisen in our favor. This change has been made by the good conduct of the new chief I sent there, assisted by the death of Julian Espinoza, the head traitor, who was killed in fight at Tancitaro.

There are more than two hundred cavalry, and one hundred infantry arming in Quiroga; and, in fact, they are striving for independence in every part of the State.

I also take pleasure in informing you that the States of Jalisco, Guanajuato and Toluca are daily increasing the number of defenders of independence. I heard yesterday that a movement was making against the invader in Tenoncingo and other places under my protection, and that some imperialists took part in it. Encouraged by these proceedings, I only wait till my forces are organized and equipped to commence an expedition, the result of which I will make known to you, whenever it occurs.

From what I have already written you, the trouble I have had in organizing my forces must be known to you; and now I only ask you to do what you can to assist me.

In the mean time I remain your friend and obedient servant,

N. DE REGULES.

Minister MATIAS ROMERO.

WASHINGTON, *September* 21, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNACIO MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[No. 97.]

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, September 24, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 21st instant, transmitting a copy of a letter received by you on the 20th from the chief of the army of the centre of the Mexican republic, in relation to the situation of affairs in the part of the country occupied by that army.

While thanking you for the information thus communicated, I avail myself of the opportunity to tender to you, sir, a renewed assurance of my high consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 5.

MILITARY OPERATIONS OF THE EASTERN DIVISION.

List of papers.

98. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with eight enclosures) ..... June 10, 1866.
99. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero ..... July 7, 1866.
100. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with seven enclosures) ..... July 13, 1866.
101. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero ..... July 19, 1866.
102. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with six enclosures) ..... Oct. 6, 1866.
103. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero ..... Oct. 12, 1866.
104. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with five enclosures) ..... Oct. 21, 1866.
105. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero ..... Dec. 26, 1866.
106. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with eight enclosures) ..... Nov. 20, 1866.
107. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero ..... Nov. 30, 1866.

No. 98.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, June 10, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, copies of documents specified in the annexed index, showing the condition of affairs at latest dates in the oriental military division of the Mexican republic.

I accept the opportunity to repeat to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Index of documents sent by the Mexican legation in Washington to the Department of State of the United States, with the note of this date, in relation to occurences on the oriental line.

No.	Date.	Address.	Contents.
	1866.		
1	May 16	General Garcia to Mr. Romero.....	Transmitting correspondence to be forwarded.
2	May 16	General Garcia to the President.....	A statement of recent events on the eastern line.
3	May 15	General Garcia to the minister of war.	Saying the line south of Vera Cruz was invaded on the 24th of March last, and explaining the situation of affairs.
4	May 15	General Garcia to the minister of war.	Official report of the victory at Tonala, in the State of Tobasco.
5	May 15	General Garcia to the minister of war.	Official report of the victory of Sayaltepec, by General Figueroa.
6	May 15	General Garcia to the minister of war.	Official report of General Diaz on the victory of Janultepec.
7	May 15	General Garcia to the minister of war.	News of General Diaz's victory at Putla, in the State of Oaxaca.

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

WASHINGTON, *June* 10, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

AMATLAN, *May* 16, 1866.

SIR: I received lately, after much delay, the duplicate of yours of the 3d of January last, which now needs no answer, and your acceptable letter of the 9th of April last.

Our friend General Baranda must have shown you my letter of the 2d instant, reporting the state of affairs here, and by the one I send to-day for the Presi-

dent, which you will please forward to him when you have read it, you will be informed of the present condition of our affairs, which is not so bad as might be.

I am glad to hear that things are going on well in your region.

Your most obedient and attentive servant,

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

WASHINGTON, *June*, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.]

AMATLAN, *May* 15, 1866.

SIR: My fears, so often expressed to you, have been realized. As you will see in my official note of to-day to the minister of war, this coast was invaded after the 24th of March last, and from that time till now I have had to contend with a thousand difficulties in its defence. I have needed forces; I have been in want of arms, because I could get them at no price here, and our minister in Washington could not send me any, though often requested; and so I have not been able to escape from the false position in which I am placed.

Fortunately the enemy has committed errors, and was compelled to disband the forces brought to Tlacotalpam. Thanks to the patriotism of the inhabitants, to the bravery of my chiefs and soldiers, to our constant efforts in overcoming obstacles, our present position is not bad, and I have good hopes that the national arms will once more triumph in this line, if fortune does not desert us hereafter.

The enemy has the advantage over us in cannons and other elements of war, as long as he remains on a plain bounded by a large river; but it cannot be said that his situation is excellent, because the courage of our soldiers makes up for want of munitions, and we have absolutely penned the enemy in the town of Tlacotalpam, where he has to hide in his trenches. All the inhabitants have gone to the surrounding towns and villages, so the enemy has nobody to govern there. All the approaches have been cut off by land or water; and as the water of the river in front of the town is salt, they have to drink that or the dirty well-water. Steamers cannot come down the river, for our forces attack them from the banks. We have forces on the road from Tlacotalpam to Alvarado, that fire on every boat that passes on the river, so none but war steamers can now go up or down. On the banks of the river opposite Tlacotalpam we have forces to annoy the enemy with cannons and rifles; and on the west of the town, where our encampment is situated, we harrass the enemy seriously. I assure you we give him no time to sleep or rest, and I am told he is becoming desperate. Mariano Camacho is at the head of the hostile forces in Tlacotalpam, resisting all these annoyances. It seems he is determined to hold out to the last and perish under the ruins of the city. It is now rumored he will soon receive orders to withdraw, and I think he will have to give up at any rate, even if the rainy season, now beginning, does not compel us to quit the low grounds we now occupy.

Fortunately on other parts of the ine we are doing well. Peace prevails in Tabasco and Chiapas despite the reports of an invasion from Yucatan. There is no probability of it now, however, and you will see by my report of to-day to the minister of war that our forces, on the 17th ultimo, recovered the district of Tonala from the imperialists. You will also see an account of the late vic-

tories of General Diaz and Figueroa, at Mexteca and Sayalpec; these, think, will induce the evacuation of Tlacotalpam.

I have no time for more, but remain yours truly,

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

Señor Don Benito Juarez,
President of the Mexican Republic.

Washington, *June* —, 1863.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—HEADQUARTERS OF THE EASTERN LINE.

On the 24th of March last, after many rumors of invasion in the line south of Vera Cruz, said to be formidable and commanded by General Count Thun, four large and one small French steamers appeared befored Tlacotalpam, and a force of infantry and artillery came from Omealca, the number of which I could not ascertain at the time. I have never had enough forces to resist an invasion, and have constantly been in need of arms. This was well known to the government, for I applied to the President of the republic frequently, since May of last year, to send me arms, as I could not get them here. So fearing to be overpowered by the enemy, and hemmed in, as I was, on the left bank of the Papaloapam by steamers and land forces, I determined to cross the river, which I did on the 25th of March, with all the forces I had scattered about Estanguela, Cosamaloapam and Tlacotalpam. This was fortunate, as the enemy's land forces reached Cosamaloapam on the 26th, and steamers began to ply on the river below Tlacotalpam; and if we had not crossed when we did we could not have crossed afterwards.

I formed a line of defence on the right bank of the Papaloapam, from Chacaltianguiz to Santiago Tuxtla; one column of infantry on the right, and one at San Nicolas, as a central point; another as a reserve in Nopalapam, with the cavalry in front, ready for any movement of the enemy if he should pursue me in my retreat.

The forces of Acayucam and Minatitlan remained in their cantons, to prevent an incursion of the enemy on that side, and those to the north of this coast remained in their positions to defend us from a flank movement.

My line of defence thus established, I set to work, making use of every mode of defence. Fifteen days passed and the enemy did not appear. Learning that he had only 1,200 men in Tlacotalpam, and that a number of them had been sent to Vera Cruz, I recrossed the Papaloapam and fixed my headquarters in this town, extending my forces from San Geronimo to Cosamaloapam, and began to harass the enemy, now fortified in Tlacotalpam.

I next moved my camp to a place two leagues to the west of that city, out of the reach of the gunboats that might come up the river to bombard it.

All my forces are now in this camp, except those of Cocinte, Minatitlan and Acayucam; and we constantly annoy them in the town. Now the enemy is confined to the town limits.

I wish to force an evacuation of the place, without risking an assault, as four steamers are anchored in front of the town to defend it.

But if the rainy season comes on, and the enemy has not left the town, I shall be compelled to attack it, as it is the only place the water does not cover during the rains; and as all the inhabitants have left, I must retake it and let them return to their homes.

It is scarcely necessary to tell you I have not the elements for a war of this kind, because you know it already; but fate has placed me here and I must assume the responsibility. If I fail it will not be by my fault, for I have asked aid of the government more than once. But fortune must favor the patriotism, the self-denial, and bravery of the loyal Mexicans I have under my command.

Independence and liberty! Headquarters in Amatlan, May 15, 1866.

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

The MINISTER OF WAR, *at El Paso del Norte.*

WASHINGTON, *June* 10, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 4.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—HEADQUARTERS OF THE EASTERN LINE.

CITIZEN MINISTER: On the 17th of last month the governor and military commander of the State of Tabasco wrote me as follows:

"It is four o'clock in the afternoon, and the garrison of Tonata has surrendered at discretion after an obstinate contest, with a guarantee of life and liberty. Unfortunately the victory was not gained without a struggle; we lost several men and officers. I will report the number of killed and wounded as soon as it can be ascertained. In granting life and liberty to the enemy, I think I have acted in accordance with Mexican clemency and generosity, but if there is anything else against me, I am ready to repel the charges. I have the honor to rejoice with you over this victory, which gives us an important place, with its artillery, arms, munitions and other necessaries. Accept the assurance of my appreciation and respect."

I have the honor to transmit this communication for the information of the President of the republic, felicitating him upon this new honor to the valiant sons of Tabasco, whom I have already ordered to be thanked, in the name of the supreme government, for this brilliant feat of arms.

Independence and liberty! Amatlan, May 15, 1866.

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

The MINISTER OF WAR.

WASHINGTON, *June* 10, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 5.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—HEADQUARTERS OF THE EASTERN LINE.

CITIZEN MINISTER: Citizen General Luis P. Figueroa writes me from Sayaltepec, April 27, as follows:

"Long live the republic! Twelve hundred Austrians and traitors, with two four-pound rifled cannons and three twelve-pound mountain howitzers, came within my lines as far as Sayaltepec on the 30th of March last. After a severe battle of six hours they were defeated, and they retreated to Tocatlan, where they were harassed by our troops till re-enforcements joined them with munitions. On the 23d they attacked us again, but had to retreat with many killed, wounded, and missing, as in the battle of the 30th.

"They returned on the 25th, marched out their best troops, and offered battle. They were again repulsed after cannonading us for five hours. On this occasion, as on the others, their loss was considerable.

"We collected ninety rifles, ten muskets, three cornets; sixty killed, fifteen prisoners, and nine wounded. Our loss was slight."

I transmit this communication to you for the information of the President of the republic.

Independence and liberty! Headquarters in Amatlan, May 15, 1866.

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

The Citizen MINISTER OF WAR, *Paso del Norte.*

WASHINGTON, *June* 10, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 6.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—HEADQUARTERS OF THE EASTERN LINE.

CITIZEN MINISTER: General Porfirio Diaz, chief of this line, under date of the 30th of April last, writes me as follows:

"I have the honor to inform you that, on my arrival at Jamiltepec, the enemy, to the number of more than seven hundred men, with two pieces of artillery, having heard of my coming, left the place. I immediately ordered General Leyva in pursuit, and, although he did not succeed in overtaking him, he collected more than four hundred arms and much ammunition. I also ordered the prefect of Jamiltepec to gather up whatever the enemy had left along the road."

I transmit this communication to you for the information of the President of the republic.

Independence and liberty! Amatlan, May 15, 1866.

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

The Citizen MINISTER OF WAR.

WASHINGTON, *June* 10, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 7.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—HEADQUARTERS OF THE EASTERN LINE.

CITIZEN MINISTER: General Luis P. Figueroa, in a private letter of the 28th of April last, writes me as follows:

"Since my last letter of this date, in relation to General Porfirio Diaz, I have seen another, dated the 14th instant, in Putla, the tenor of which is as follows:

'PUTLA, *April* 14, 1866.

'As I said, I began my operations in Mistecas. To-day I took possession of Putla, surprising the enemy, who made no resistance. The Spaniard Ceballos was at the head of the forces on a hill. I ordered a part of my cavalry to attack them, which was done, routing them completely, and pursuing them till dark. We took seventy rifles, twenty-one muskets, thirty lances, and forty

horses with saddles from the enemy. He had seventeen killed and lost twenty-three prisoners. As I have no time, you will please forward this to General Garcia.'

"I send you this for the purpose above mentioned."

I have the honor to make the above communication to you for the information of the government, which will no doubt be pleased to hear of the progress of General Diaz, whom the enemy has so often destroyed.

Independence and liberty! Headquarters in Amatlan, May 15, 1866.

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

The Citizen MINISTER OF WAR, *Paso del Norte.*

WASHINGTON, *June* 10, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 99.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 7, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 10th ultimo, transmitting, for the information of the government of the United States, certain information with regard to affairs on the oriental line of the Mexican republic, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 100.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, July 13, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, the copy of a letter I received from General Diaz, chief of the oriental line of the Mexican republic, dated at Tlapa the 9th of May last, informing me of the military operations of the forces under his command in the State of Oaxaca, together with the copy of a communication dated the 15th of June last, and addressed by General Garcia, second in command on the same line, from Amatlan, to the minister of war and marine of the Mexican republic, informing him of the movements recently taken place on the southern coast of the State of Vera Cruz, and chiefly in front of Tlacotalpam, now held by the French. I also enclose the two reports to which the said communication refers.

I am pleased to have this occasion of renewing to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

TLAPA, *May* 9, 1866.

MUCH ESTEEMED FRIEND: Your letters of the 22d of February and 23d of March last have just reached me, and inform me of the good aspect of our affairs in that country. They also tell me of your inability, up to the latest dates, to raise the means I so much need to effectual service. I wish to quit the skirmishing in which I am engaged as a pastime, but to operate on a great scale requires money; for without it, the men I can raise are of no service.

I have also received the government orders making me commander-in-chief of the eastern line, a proof of confidence I will remember with pleasure. I cannot say much about our situation here. When orders reached me I could have crossed to the other side of the State (Oaxaca,) but as the enemy has only one point to watch, he could bring all his forces upon me, and as skirmishing did some good, I determined to remain here to wait for supplies, so that I could cross over with some advantage. So if the enemy attempts to move, we can threaten him and hold him in check.

There is another reason: I could have more resources and elements of war in those towns, but the men are not so fit for service; being further south, they wish to fight in their own sections. As the resourses are on that side, and the men on this, it is best to divide them. If I can do it, I will take men from Mixteca, the valley of Puebla, and Tlaxcala, who are disposed and can place confidence in me. If I cannot get means from you, Garcia, or elsewhere, I shall have to give up my plans and cross the State and do the best I can.

I will give you some brief details of my late operations. After my return to the coast from Mixteca, which I did in good order, though the enemy followed me closely, I changed my base of operations. One column followed me from Mixteca, and learning that another was coming from Sola and Juquila, I hurried and reached Pinotepa before them. There I stopped till both columns united, and then I went to Lo de Loto, where I waited for the enemy till the 25th of February. He succeeded in scattering my advance, and not one man got back to camp, and the first thing I knew the enemy was in front of me. I effected a retreat, moving to Ometepec and leaving my cavalry under the command of General Leysoa, with orders to cover our march. That incident interrupted my plans.

The enemy's cavalry attacked us twice and were repulsed both times. I lost one officer, Manuel Alberto, in the skirmish, killed three of the enemy, wounded many, and took one prisoner.

I got some supplies in Ometepec and marched hurriedly to Janieltepec. The enemy was surprised to hear I was a day's journey in a direction different from what he thought. I suddenly countermarched towards his base of operations, and attacked him with such success we captured 232 muskets and some ammunition.

On the 14th of April I marched to Putla with a small force and routed a detachment of 200 men. On the 25th I gathered all the enemy left, secured transportation for the booty, and went on the next day to Tlajiaco. The garrisons of that place, Tastlahuaca, and Huajuapam, had gone to Teposcohila. I advanced to Tolomecal, which the enemy had left for Tantuezlan. They heard of my movements in Oaxaca, and the enemy was re-enforced. I then countermarched to Tlajiaco, to surprise the Austrian garrison, but it had retired and joined the main body of the army.

My movement upon Tlajiaco produced the good effect of calling the enemy's attention in that direction, supposing I was going to attack in force, and General Leysoa reached his place of destination in safety.

I think to remain here some days to rest my troops and equip others with the arms I took from the enemy, and do other things which I need not mention.

My great trouble is want of means. I am invited by all the towns, that offer me men and the arms the empire has furnished them, but I have no money to pay them, and I prefer the small force I have. If I had means I could enlarge my force and march where there are wealthy traitors, and make them pay the expenses of this war. My expenses are small; my soldiers only get twelve cents a day, and often less, and the officers serve without pay.

Some advise me to levy forced loans upon the towns, but I do not think it best; extortion is contrary to my nature, whatever Forey may say to the contrary.

I have had the last government decrees published. The first, prolonging the presidency, was very favorably received. I have not mentioned this to you before, because I considered it my duty to obey or resign. The plan seems to me not only the best, but the only one to be adopted.

The decree for the prosecution of General Ortega and other officers like him is in accordance with the rules and practices of the army. I believe in the rigor of martial law, and I think the government has done exactly right.

I beg you will continue your favors, while I remain your friend and servant

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

Señor DON MATEO ROMERO, *Washington.*

WASHINGTON, *July* 13, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—HEADQUARTERS OF THE EASTERN LINE—SECOND GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

AMATLAN, *June* 15, 1866.

The certified copies of the reports of the chief advancing on Tlacotalpam, which I enclose to your department, will inform you of the principal movements against the enemy holding that place taken place since my last communication, in which I informed you of its occupation by the imperial forces and five French war vessels, and of our encampment at Mototepec, only two leagues from that city, where our forces now are and will remain some time.

You will see by the last report that our camp has been moved from Mototepec because the enemy was re-enforced in Tlacotalpam, and their gunboats prevent us from attacking the place. They bombarded us on the 6th, and destroyed a number of houses, doing much damage to the inhabitants.

Another reason for our move is, the rainy season has begun, and the marsh-lands of Tlacotalpam are not healthy, and we were compelled to go to some higher region till the rainy season is over. After a rest in a more healthy region we may attack the enemy with more courage, and perhaps succeed in driving him from Tlacotalpam, the only place he has been allowed to hold in the line of my command.

I communicate this for the information of the President of the republic.

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE.

WASHINGTON, *July* 13, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—ADVANCED SECTION ON TLACOTALPAM—COLONEL-IN-CHIEF.

CITIZEN GENERAL: Yesterday morning, at eight o'clock. the enemy, to the number of two hundred infantry and cavalry, sallied out of the city upon our advance, trying to surprise Commander Eulalio Vela, who was in ambush to watch the enemy hunting cattle. The consequence was a conflict which resulted in our favor, though Commander Vela had but one hundred men of both kinds.

The enemy fled in haste, leaving their dead in our hands.

When the skirmish began I moved with a column to threaten Fort Hornos. The enemy came out, but soon retreated with the loss of three men and four horses.

Commander Vela, whose bravery on this occasion corresponded with his reputation, received three bullet wounds, but did not leave the field till the enemy was driven back to his trenches. Lieutenant Lili was also wounded on an occasion that makes him worthy of recommendation. We had but two of our men killed, while the enemy paid dearly for his audacity. As soon as I heard Commander Vela was wounded, I sent Colonel Pablo Diaz to his aid. We buried six of the enemy found killed in the camp he had deserted. We also got three horses, fourteen percussion rifles, one sabre, harness, and some very bad provisions. We released two prisoners that had been forced into the enemy's ranks. We learned from spies that the enemy had sixteen wounded.

On this occasion the gunboats could be of no service to the land forces because they were too far off, and the French marines despise the land forces and show contempt for them.

This I communicate to you for your information, congratulating you on the happy event that once more proves the valor and resolution of our troops.

Independence and liberty! Camp near Tlacotalpam, May 25, 1866.

FRANCISCO CARREON.

The SECOND GENERAL-IN CHIEF *of the Eastern Line, at Amatlan.*

AMATLAN, *June* 15, 1866.

I certify to the above copy:

J. A. RUIZ, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 4.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—HEADQUARTERS OF THE EASTERN LINE—SECOND GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

CITIZEN MINISTER: Colonel Francisco Carreon, chief of the advance on Tlacotalpam, reported to me yesterday from the vicinity of that city as follows:

"CITIZEN GENERAL: Having fixed upon a plan with Lieutenant Colonel Diaz y Lagos to attack the enemy in his lines, that officer marched with his section at daybreak along the river and began the battle. He was received with artillery and musketry, yet his brave men charged with the shout of *viva la republica,* and drove the enemy from his trenches. The rangers then made an attack on the other side and succeeded in the object of their attack. Colonel Diaz y Lagos, having effected his design, retired without being molested. That brave officer and his valiant subordinates have demonstrated the true courage of the soldiers on the eastern line. When the firing had ceased in the direction of Ribera I attacked Fort Hornos with equal success. Lieutenant Colonel Ariza

at the head of a column composed of the second Zaragoza battalion and the Cosamaloapan, charged bayonets upon the enemy, who, however, held his position for a short time, and then suddenly fled to the city.

"During these skirmishes there were many personal fights of great honor to the republican soldiers. I then came to Lieutenant Colonel Ariza's aid with my Acayucam company, to drive the haughty imperialists from the heights, whence they kept up a continued fire. The fight continued vigorously, and many houses along the river caught fire and were consumed. While our men were winning fadeless laurels I sent a company to the other side of the town and it accomplished what I wanted.

"At five in the afternoon I returned to my camp, after destroying fort Hornos. My losses are detailed in annex No. 1.

"I cannot say what was the enemy's loss, but we buried eleven bodies, and from traces of blood many wounded must have been carried off.

"All my officers and men did their duty, but I must particularize the brave conduct of Captain José Maria Iglesias, with Ariza's forces, who fell bravely with sword in hand. He had the tribute of funeral honors, as mentioned in 2 and 3. The gallant conduct of Lieutenant Colonels Ariza and Diaz, as well as that of the ranger commanders and other officers, commend them to the gratitude of the nation."

I communicate the above, with great respect, for your information, and in just eulogy to Colonel Carreon and the brave Mexicans who fought with him at Tlacotalpam, in defence of national independence.

The body of Captain Iglesias was buried to-day, with due honors, in the principal church, where the shade of his glorious memory will ever repose.

The Tuxtla national guards joined in the fight, and did good service on the opposite side of the river. I have not yet had the report of its colonel, Larrañaga. Honor and glory to the brave Mexicans who have on this occasion sacrificed themselves for their country.

Independence and liberty! Amatlan, June 3, 1866.

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

The Military Commander of ———

Amatlan, *June* 15, 1866.

A certified copy:

J. A. RUIZ, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 5.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—FORCES NEAR TLACOTALPAM—COLONEL-IN-CHIEF.

Citizen General: Last night I heard the enemy had formed a new line of fortifications not far from the first, and I immediately determined to drive him out of them. So, with Colonel Diaz Lagos and Captain Jimenez, I took a position on the Casemate road, leaving a small force to protect the camp and baggage. At daylight Captain Jimenez attacked Puente Garcia, and was met by the enemy's artillery and rifles. Colonel Diaz then came up, and drove the enemy back into the town. Next, Captain Lauro Candiani, Lieutenant Albino Reyes, and Prudencio Martinez, surrounded the town. I then sent out two companies of rangers, under Perez and Rohoso, to attack Teran. Captain Alonzo also came up with his cavalry. All these forces charged the enemy at once, and drove him back some distance. As the enemy's cannonade was continuous, I sent Captain Bossa out with one company of the Zaragoza battalion to take their guns, while Colonel Ariza was to command all our forces. My right wing

was well protected by cavalry, and my left was sustained by Lieutenant Zamudio and Barreiro, with a Minatitlan company. I stationed my line of reserve in the main road, and took a position with my own men at Hornos. This was scarcely effected when a brisk fire began on both sides. One of the French steamers then began to bombard the town; many houses were knocked down, and the thatched ones were burned. The spectacle at this moment was sad and imposing; the bells of St. Michael's church, occupied by our soldiers, ringing strangely in contrast with the sight of burning houses.

The enemy had now retreated to their last intrenchments, and the object of our attack being gained, I ordered our forces to beat a retreat.

Our losses are detailed in No. 1. Ribera street, and the streets around St. Michael's church, were strewn with dead bodies of the enemy.

All the troops of this section behaved gallantly, so I can give no special recommendations; but to comply with my duty, I must make honorable mention of the second company of active rangers, commanded by Captain Candiani, and of the Zaragoza battalion, under Captain Rohoso.

I have the honor to communicate this to you, with the greatest respect.

Independence and liberty! Camp near Tlacotalpam, June 6, 1866.

FRANCISCO CARREON.

The GENERAL SECOND IN CHIEF *of the Eastern Line, at Amatlan.*

AMATLAN, *June* 15, 1866.

A certified copy:

J. A. RUIZ, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No 6.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—EASTERN LINE—INFANTRY SECTION.

After reconnoitring Tlacotalpam on the 9th, wishing to drive the enemy out, I moved a part of my forces yesterday, with a column of cavalry under Colonel Gomez, upon that city, forming two columns of infantry under Lieutenant Colonels Diaz, Lagos, and Ariza.

My schemes were frustrated; for the enemy retreated as soon as our forces appeared, and burned all the houses behind him. He did this to discover our number, for it was not yet day.

The imperialists took refuge in their limited fortifications, and on board the four French war steamers, that instantly opened fire upon us. It did not frighten our soldiers, for they advanced almost to the parapets of the forts.

At four o'clock in the morning, while this was going on, several of the enemy's soldiers came over to our side.

My sole object was to draw the enemy out of his trenches to an open field fight; but failing in that, I ordered the retreat of the attacking columns at six in the morning, by the national road, in sight of the enemy on land and on the boats.

Knowing the enemy in the town depended on his large artillery and the steamers moored in the river, and had not the courage to come out, I continued to annoy him; and this I will continue, informing you of the result.

Independence and liberty! Camp in Mototepec, May 15, 1866.

F. CARREON.

The GENERAL SECOND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF *of the Eastern Line.*

WASHINGTON, *July* 13, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 7.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—ADVANCED SECTION, NEAR TLACOTALPAM.

At eleven at night my forces were in front of Tlacotalpam, about to begin the attack, when the gunboats opened upon us, and we were compelled to retire. They are now on the surrounding heights, determined to annoy the garrison as long as possible.

Independence and liberty! Camp at Amates, May 29, 1866.

F. CARREON.

The GENERAL SECOND IN CCIEF *of the Eastern Line.*

WASHINGTON, *July* 13, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 101.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 19, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 13th instant, containing a copy of a letter addressed to you by General Diaz; also of one addressed by General Garcia to the minister of war of Mexico, both on the subject of some military operations; for the information contained in which please accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 102.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, October 6, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, the documents specified in the accompanying index, which reached me to-day, giving an account of recent events in the eastern military division of the Mexican republic, the principal of which is the occupation of Tlacotalpam, in the State of Vera Cruz, by the forces of General Garcia.

I take the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Index of documents sent by the Mexican legation in Washington to the Department of State of the United States, with the note of this date, in relation to events that have occurred on the eastern line.

No.	Date.	Contents.
	1866.	
1	July 28	Letter of General Diaz to Mr. Romero, giving an account of his last operations in the State ot Oaxaca.
2	Sept. 20	Letter of General Garcia to Mr. Romero, enclosing the following documents:
3	Sept. 20	Letter from the same general to President Juarez, informing him of late events in the line of his command.
4	July 30	Official despatch from General Garcia to the minister of war, in Chihuahua, communicating the capture of Alvarado.
5	Sept. 8	Official despatch of General Garcia to the same department, on the occupation of Tlacotalpam.
6	Aug. 31	Proclamation of Colonel Teran, second in command on the line south of Vera Cruz, to the inhabitants of the State.

WASHINGTON, *October* 6, 1866.

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

HUAMUXTITLAN, *July* 28, 1866.

MUCH ESTEEMED FRIEND: Your letters of the 10th and 17th of June reached me at the same time.

* * * * * * * * *

After my letter from Quetzala, to which you refer, I wrote to you from Jamiltepec, informing you of my occupation of that place and of the advantage I gained over the enemy in pursuing him towards Oaxaca. I wrote you from Putla, on my arrival there, where I surprised and routed 200 of the enemy. Four days afterwards I informed you of my march to Tlapaco, my entry into that city, pursuit of the garrison, and my sudden return here.

The most important event I mentioned to you was the complete rout of an Austrian column in the sierra, going south, by Figueroa. I have made no detailed official report of this to the supreme government, because the mails venture to carry only the smallest papers, and what I received I transmitted to you. I did not send an official despatch, because I had not received one, and I think it unnecessary now, after so long a time.

I have already informed you of what Figueroa wrote me, and, though you may have received my letter, I will repeat the most interesting.

On the battle-field at Soejaltepec we buried 96 dead bodies of Austrians. From there to Fejuacan we saw many dead, but the woods was so dense we could not count them. It was not Figueroa's soldiers, but the inhabitants, who pursued them and fought them in ambush, thus annoying them all along the road. The people even set fire to their houses, so as to deprive the enemy of all shelter. The most heroic of these were the inhabitants of Soejaltepec, Ixcatlan, and Ojitlan.

As to my future operations, they will be where there is most profit. It is

hazardous to give you information now, on account of the insecurity of the roads; but I can assure you everything is going on much to my satisfaction.

Your friend and servant,

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

Minister Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *Washington.*

WASHINGTON, *October* 6, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.]

TLACOTALPAM, *September* 20, 1866.

DEAR SIR AND FRIEND: * * * * * *

It gave me much pleasure to learn, from your letter of the 22d June, that Santa Anna had failed in his secret intentions against this country. I have since received copies of the correspondence between the government, you, and him, by way of Vera Cruz, and had it published immediately.

Things have changed here wonderfully. We have reconquered this city, thanks to the valor and patriotism of the loyal Mexicans who are with me to make war on the enemy on this coast, as you will see by the correspondence I send you for transmission to the government, which I hope you will do after you read it.

The enemy has no place of refuge in this part of the country now but Alvarado, which is only kept by the gunboats; but the garrison is small, and it dreads an attack from us; and this we will do as soon as the health of our men permits if the enemy does not evacuate the place soon, which it is said he will do very soon.

Your very obedient servant,

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

Minister Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *Washington.*

WASHINGTON, *October* 7, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 3]

TLACOTALPAM, *September* 20, 1866.

DEAR SIR: When I frankly told you in one of my former communications of the desperate state of affairs in the line of my command, on account of the enemy's invasion in March last, and of other disturbances north and south of it, I assured you that, notwithstanding our want of arms, we would not falter a moment in the national defence, neither I nor any of the patriots who accompany me on the campaign, with so much abnegation and suffering; and now I have the satisfaction to inform you that the aspect of affairs has completely changed, thanks to the prodigious efforts of the good Mexicans who have saved the situation in this part of the country.

The invaders well knew that the possession of this city, the natural key to the region watered by the Papaloapam, San Juan and Tereschoacan, with their many tributaries, was a matter of life or death with them; and they collected all their troops and elements of defence at this point, and their allies, the French, brought up their war steamers to defend them. For this reason it attracted our particular attention, and we determined to make it the object of our attack.

On the 10th of August, taking advantage of the absence of the steamers, we

attacked the place formally, the detailed report of which I send to the War Department and to General Diaz. As you will see by the document, though we could not get possession of the city that day, we frightened the enemy and convinced him that he could not resist another attack from us, and when we prepared to make it the city was surrendered on the 10th of August, as you will see by the despatch which I also send this day to the War Department, and which I have already sent to General Diaz.

By the occupation of this place the enemy is free from this coast, and, judging from the condition of the so-called empire, I do not think he will be able to recover it very soon.

While in the city, General Ignacio A. Alatorre, who escaped from the French in the city of Mexico, where he was held prisoner, presented himself to me, and I was glad to appoint him again chief of the northern part of the State, where he had formerly rendered such important services, and where he has already started with a small force, arms, munitions and money, which I furnished him for the expedition. I expect he will do much good, for General Alatorre is a chief justly famous on that line. I hear the imperialists have suffered some damage in Zacapoastla and Tezirytlan. There is no news from Chiapas; the organization of forces is complete there. It is the same in Tabasco, for the French vessels do not call there, and their garrison in Jonuta is of no use to them; on the contrary, the soldiers are deserting, and these deserters furnish us with arms and amunition in that region.

General Diaz wrote to me from Chinantla on the 19th, and says he has progressed considerably. He is acquainted with all the movements of our forces, even those near the city of Mexico.

Your very attentive and obedient servant,

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

Señor Don Benito Juarez,
President of the Mexican Republic, Chihuahua.

Washington, *October* 6, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 4.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—HEADQUARTERS EASTERN LINE—SECOND-GENERAL-IN CHIEF.

Citizen Minister: Captain Thomas Lozano sends me the following good news from Alvarado:

"I have the honor to inform you that we captured Alvarado to-day by assault, all the munitions of war belonging to the garrison falling into our hands, with seventeen prisoners of war and seven killed of the enemy. I have ordered the authorities to bury them. On our side, we have to lament the death of the brave Captain Pilar Salas, several officers wounded, and the loss of several of our best horses. I will make out a circumstantial report as soon as I can obtain the necessary information."

Which I have the honor to transcribe for your information and the satisfaction of the government.

Independence and liberty! Amatlan, July 30, 1866.

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

The Minister of War, *Chihuahua.*

Washington, *October* 6, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNACIO MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 5.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—HEADQUARTERS EASTERN LINE—SECOND-GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

CITIZEN MINISTER: On the 18th of August I wrote to General Porfirio Dias, chief of the eastern line, as follows:

"You will see in the acompanying report that I ordered an attack on Tlacotalpam, in possession of the imperialists, and harmed the enemy so much in the first assault I knew we could not fail. Convinced of this, I arranged a second attack, when the imperialist commander, Don Mariano Camacho, proposed a parley with me. After a conference of some time, he offered to surrender the city to me to-day, if I would consent to his quiet withdrawal. He stated his object was to avoid all bloodshed, for the commander of the four French war steamers declared he would shell the town and reduce it to ashes if one of the imperialists was wounded, and the marines were anxious for an excuse to carry out their barbarous design.

"Convinced that it is my duty to spare the inhabitants and permit those to return who have left, wandering in the woods for four months, exposed to the inclemency of the weather and sickness, rather than submit to the enemy; appreciating the valor and determination of our troops, and the bravery of the Conejo garrison that frightened the French, and believing that Camacho's proposal was honorable to the nation, I accepted it yesterday, and the city was surrendered to me this day. I immediately sent in a guard to protect the inhabitants, and now the city is once more under the protection of the glorious flag of the republic, of which it has been deprived for so long a time. I also have the pleasure of rejoicing with you and all loyal Mexicans upon the reconquest of a place of so much importance on this line."

Which I have the honor to transcribe for the information of the President of the republic. I am pleased to assure you that peace has been restored on this line by the recapture of Tlacotalpam, and that I am busy organizing a government for the State.

Independence and liberty! Tlacotalpam, September 8, 1866.

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

The Citizen MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE, *Chihuahua.*

WASHINGTON, *October* 6, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNACIO MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 6.]

PROCLAMATION.

Colonel Luis Mier y Teran to the inhabitants along the coast of Vera Cruz:

FELLOW-CITIZENS: The undersigned having been appointed to duty on this coast as second in command, he therefore appears here for the purpose of opening a campaign, acting under the orders of General C. Ignacio Alatorre, an officer who is well known to you for his skill and brilliant qualities.

The last knell for the so-called empire which has tried to fasten itself upon the Mexican nation has been sounded. Unable to remain a cold spectator at this time, I have taken the field against that empire. To this end I have abandoned family and business interests. I have abandoned everything which is dear to a man after this love of country. I intend to continue fighting in my country's defence, and that we may be successful I ask—indeed I count upon—the co-operation of all good Mexicans. I feel confident that all such Mexicans will aid me—some with their arms, others with their intelligence—and all to defeat tyranny.

Come, then, my friends. Already you know who I am, and you know that I will do only that which is right, and nothing but what is for the restoration to our country of independence and liberty.

LUIS MIER Y TERAN.

ANTIGUA, *August* 31, 1866.

No. 103.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 12, 1866.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 6th instant, containing some information with regard to certain military operations in Mexico.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 104.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, October 21, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: For the information of the government of the United States, I have the honor to send you the enclosed indexed documents, showing the condition of affairs in August last in that part of the eastern division of the Mexican republic under the immediate command of General Diaz.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Index of documents sent by the Mexican legation in Washington to the Department of State of the United States, with a note of this date, concerning events on the eastern line.

No.	Date.	Contents.
	1866.	
1	Aug. 12	General Diaz's letter to a friend of his giving an account of the latest military operations.
2	Aug. 20	General Diaz's letter to Mr. Romero, from Chiantla, enclosing the following communications:
3	Aug. 20	A note from General Diaz to the minister of war of the Mexican republic, reporting his latest military operations in the line of his command.
4	Aug. 20	A note from the same to the war minister, enclosing the official report of General Luis P. Figueroa, from Teotitlan, dated May 1, giving an account of his movements the last of April, 1866.

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

WASHINGTON, *October* 21, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

XOCHHUAHUATLAN, *August* 12, 1866.

MY ESTEEMED FRIEND: * * * * * *

I have been some days on the border of the State of Guerrero, doing little, but making the enemy, and even friends, believe I intended to remain. I am preparing a march from the third district of the State of Mexico to Tehuantepec. For the last few days I have been busy in the northern part of the State of Puebla; and though I have not effected much, for want of means and supplies, I have done the best I could. Right or wrong, I begin my work with prospects of success. I approached Chiantla to protect a movement of a part of its garrison. On the 14th, when Jacaquistla was taken, where I got forty horses and much ammunition, a letter informed me that both expeditions were successful. From Chiantla I took prisoners, horses, one howitzer, and all the armament and ammunition, to what amount I have not yet learned.

The third district of the State of Mexico is in motion, and I have sent General Leyra with his cavalry to protect the movement and direct the operations.

* * * * * * *

I will soon give you the result of my plans. * * *

Colonel Visoso routed Nava, the imperialist military commander, who died in action.

Although Maximilian supplies me with arms, by distributing them among the people, they are not of the best quality, and I hope soon to exchange them for better ones. I am in great want of ammunition, though General Alvarez furnishes me all he can spare; and the enemy's arms are so much better than mine, they have a signal advantage.

Your friend and servant,

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

WASHINGTON, *October*, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNACIO MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.]

CHIANTLA, *August* 20, 1866,

VERY DEAR FRIEND: I wish to inform you of my present situation and the progress I make; and, as I have not the time to copy this for the supreme government, I send you the whole official correspondence unsealed, so you may see it before mailing it.

* * * * * * *

Your affectionate friend,

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

SEÑOR LICENCIADO MATIAS ROMERO,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic, Washington.

WASHINGTON, *October* 21, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNACIO MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—EASTERN LINE HEADQUARTERS.

CITIZEN MINISTER: Profiting by the present inaction of the invading army, thanks to the operations of the republican forces inland, I have determined to make a general movement, with the few elements of war in my power, upon the States of Mexico, Puebla, Oajaca, Tlaxcala and Chiapas. I commenced operations on the 10th with some success. On that day, Colonel Jesus M. Visoso took one hundred and fifty men of the Chiantla garrison, and routed the rest under the traitor Gavilo, joining me afterwards with a howitzer and eighty-six muskets he had captured.

On the 13th of the same month we found ourselves in front of Chiantla, retaken by Gavilo with the aid of the Austrian garrison of Matamoras. I twice thought the enemy would attack me that day; but he only came out to reconnoitre, not daring to leave the protection of the forts. While in that situation I received notice that Lieutenant Colonel Ignacio Sanchez Gamboa, heading the inhabitants of Ixcaquixtla, had whipped the traitor Granados Maldonado, prefect of Tepeji, killing seven of his men, taking twenty-six prisoners and thirty muskets, and scattering his troops, twenty-eight cavalry joining us during the fight. As Sanchez Gamboa was delayed by his booty, the enemy caught up with him, and he was obliged to join me for protection. Meantime the enemy remained safe in his forts at Chiantla, and did not seem disposed to give me battle in the open field. So I ordered General Francisco Leyra, governor of the third district of Mexico, with his 70 cavalry, to organize and arm all the republicans in his district, and appoint proper officers. With the forces under my particular command, I came to this place, where I was soon joined by Lieutenant Colonel I. Sanchez Gamboa.

While this is taking place here, General Luis P. Figueroa is to menace Tehuacan on the north; Commander Felipe Cruz, with one hundred and fifty mountaineers of Mixtecas, will occupy the Peras mines on the 12th; on the same day Colonel Manuel Lopez y Orozco marched from Tamiltepec against Tola; and the Juchitan garrison was to move to Tequisistlan, to hold the road between Tehuantepec and Oajaca.

I am waiting the result of these operations, that were to take place together, and I will thus extend my line of operations in this direction, and get all the supplies I can. At the same time I will hold the imperialists at Puebla in check by frequent incursions to that city.

If the enemy comes out to attack me, as I have reason to believe he will, I will retreat, and only give battle when certain of success; for my sole object is to get hold of the abundant supplies north of Puebla, in Tlaxcala, and even in the city of Puebla, where the people are becoming restless and revolutionary.

I will soon have the pleasure of reporting the result of all the manœuvres in which the forces of Chiapas, Tabasco, and Vera Cruz are not interested, because the first have to remain near Oajaca to watch operations in Juchitan, Tehuantepec, and the movement of General Garcia upon Tlacotalpam, and the rest have to defend the approaches to Yucatan.

The country and liberty! Chiantla, August 20, 1866.

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

The Citizen General MINISTER OF WAR, *Chihuahua*.

WASHINGTON, *October* 21, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary*.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—HEADQUARTERS OF THE EASTERN LINE.

In a communication, dated the 1st of May, in Teotitlan del Camino, General Louis P. Figueroa reports as follows:

"I have the honor to inform you that I marched on Vera Cruz the 24th of last month with General Garcia, for the purpose of attacking a mixed force of imperialists and French. The expedition failed, and I returned to Tuxtepec, where I arrived the 29th. On the evening of the 28th I heard that two columns of Austrians and traitors had occupied the portion of Santa Domingo along the river of the same name; that another column of 600 men, with two 12-pounders, coming from Huaetla, were near this place; and that a fourth column of 500 men with artillery had appeared near Teutila, all to join and attack this place.

"From the numerical superiority of the enemy we had little hopes of being able to sustain our position; but as our troops were united I prepared for the defence to the best of my ability.

"At 6 o'clock on the morning of the 30th the enemy appeared with two centre columns, protected in flank by artillery. The fight soon became general, and after six hours of constant fire, and several attempts at assault by the enemy, he finally withdrew to Ixcatlan to wait for re-enforcements. He left seventy killed, thirty rifles, twenty muskets, and one cornet. We took several prisoners, but we could not pursue the fugitives, who took to the woods, on account of the few men I had. We lost twenty-five men killed, among them José M. Rocha, captain, and thirty men wounded, among them Commander J. Ramirez. The next day I sent the Ixcatlan company to skirmish with the enemy that occupied their homes, and they exhibited their courage and patriotism by burning their own houses to dislodge the enemy. He afterwards made a reconnoissance, retired, and has not reappeared since the 15th. From that time to the 22d there were several skirmishes, and we captured several mules with loads of forage. At 6 o'clock on the morning of the 23d three columns of the enemy made their appearance, just as they had done on the 30th of last month, and commenced an attack, but failing to accomplish anything, they retired. On the 25th they renewed the attack, distributed liquor to the soldiers, and encouraged them by words. They opened their artillery with a brisk fire, and poured their columns upon our ranks. The contest was soon man to man, traitors and Austrians were mingled with the loyal defenders of the republic, and after a sanguinary struggle they were compelled to quit the field. The enemy lost about 200 killed, 114 wounded, a quantity of rifles, and 64 prisoners. Our loss was considerable. We lament the death of the brave Commander Lorenzo Guzman.

"I enclose a detailed account of the killed and wounded for the information at headquarters.

"I can make no particular recommendation of my subordinates, for they all did their duty, and exhibited great courage in combat."

I have the honor to send the above to your department, assurring you this victory has destroyed the enemy's plans of invading the south, and has put our forces into a position to undertake an expedition, of which I hope soon to give you a favorable account.

Country and liberty! Chiantla, August 20, 1866.

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

The MINISTER OF WAR, *Chihuahua.*

WASHINGTON, *October* 21, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 105.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 26, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 21st of last October, containing various documents showing the condition of affairs on the eastern line of the Mexican republic during last August, for which I pray of you to receive my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 106.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, November 20, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the United States government, the documents specified in the accompanying index, containing official reports of recent events in the eastern military division of the Mexican republic.

I call your special attention to two important victories of General Diaz over the French and Austrians on the 3d and 18th of October last, at Miahuatlan and Carbonera, in the State of Oaxaca.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Index of documents sent by the Mexican legation in Washington to the Department of State of the United States, with the note of this date, in relation to military operations on the eastern line.

No.	Date.	Contents.
	1866.	
1	Sept. 1	Communication from General Diaz, in Ixcaquistla, State of Oaxaca, reporting his military operations to the 1st September.
2	Oct. 6	Official report, with annexes, of General Diaz to the department of war, of an important victory at Miahuatlan, State of Oaxaca, 3d October last.
3, 4, 5, 6	Oct. 5	Statements of the killed and wounded at Miahuatlan, and the material of war captured from the enemy.
7	Oct. 11	General Diaz to General Garcia on the Miahuatlan victory, and his march upon Oaxaca.
8	Oct. 18	Official report of same to the war department of victory over an Austrian column at Carbonera, State of Oaxaca, on the 18th of October last.

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

WASHINGTON, *November* 20, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

YXCAQUISTLA, *September* 1, 1866.

ESTEEMED FRIEND: Five days ago I entered Tepeji and routed its small garrison, which fled, leaving me some prisoners and arms. I staid there two days and then came to this place. The Austro-French traitors did not venture to follow me, but continued to fortify themselves in Tepeaca. Acatlan is cut off and I will soon attack it. I do not expect to get anything more than arms in these towns. Yesterday morning, at daylight, I sent a cavalry company to the neighboring towns to collect the arms distributed by the French, and it got back to-day with a considerable number of muskets and a quantity of ammunition. I have sent out another expedition to-day for the same purpose.

Don Rafael J. Garcia is now acting governor of the State of Puebla, and I have appointed General Cuellar commander of the districts of the valley north of Puebla and Tlaxcala. General Mendez is in command of the Sierra del Puebla, General Ramos is chief of the western districts, and General Leiva is operating near Cuernavaca, while Figueroa is threatening Tehuacan.

* * * * * * * * *

Your attentive and obedient servant,

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

Mr. MATIAS ROMERO.

WASHINGTON, *November*, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary*.

[Enclosure No. 2.—From the official bulletin, No. 42, Tlacotalpam, October 25, 1866.]

REPUBLICAN ARMY—EASTERN LINE—GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

CITIZEN MINISTER: After my fight with the Hungarians at Nochistlan, on the 23d of September, as you know, I came to this place by Teozacualco and Peras. As soon as my movement was known at Oaxaca, Oronoz was sent out after me, with 1,100 men, and came in sight at half-past three in the afternoon of the 3d instant. As the enemy marched rapidly, I sallied out with my escort to find a place for the infantry on the Nogales hills, west of the town, while General Vicente Ramos held the enemy at bay with his cavalry. Then, with the infantry of Colonel Manuel Gonzales to support me, I located my artillery as follows: The line of battle extended from north to south; the Morelos battalion of 100 men, under Juan J. Cano, was on the right; the mountain sharpshooters, under Felipe Cruz, with 230 men, came next; and the Patria battalion of 96 men, under Colonel José Segura y Guzman, closed the left. On the right was the Chiantla company of 80 men; the battalion of loyal countrymen came next, consisting of 130 men, under José G. Carbo. The line thus established, General Ramos passed through the town and left thirty armed citizens, under Captain Apolinar Garcia, to protect it.

To prevent the cavalry from being molested I ordered forty mountain riflemen and the inhabitants to hide in the fields adjoining the town. The cavalry passed on the right to the rear of our line, while the enemy kept on till he got in front of our line on the hills of Yolveo and the Matadero; there, forming into three columns, he opened the combat with artillery. Our riflemen bravely sustained the first onset of the enemy, who, thus stopped, profited by the unevenness of the ground to continue the fight as he retreated.

Seeing the great number of the enemy, I enforced my line with the rest of the Chiantla company and twenty of the Tlapa battalion, under Colonel Juan

Espinosa Gorostiza. The fight then became general along the line, and, as our ammunition was giving out, I ordered an assault on the enemy's position, and gained a complete victory. Determined upon this, I ordered the riflemen across the river, and ranged the rest of my forces into columns; General Ramos, with the Tepeji squadron, marched to the rear of Oronoz, so that the enemy was completely surrounded. Then I gave the signal of advance, and placed myself at the head of a column formed of the battalion of Fieles and the Puebla lancers. Colonel Espinosa soon joined me, and we advanced together. Colonel Gonzales and Juan de la Luz Enriquez marched to attack the right flank. Our troops overcame all obstacles, and advanced straight in front of the enemy; took his artillery, turned it against him, and gained a complete but hard-earned victory. Ramos took the rear with his cavalry, and executed such a rapid movement that the enemy could not escape.

The scattered enemy was pursued for three leagues, throwing away his arms; the quantity of which you will perceive by the annexed report, as well as the killed, wounded, and prisoners on both sides, with the munitions, baggage, and pack-mules.

I am pleased to inform you that the chiefs, officers, and men behaved with signal gallantry on the occasion, and I can make no special commendations.

The traitor officers taken prisoners were shot, in accordance with the law of the 25th of January, 1862. Their names and rank are given in the subjoined list. Some of them were the same that went over to the enemy at the last siege of Oaxaca.

I spent the 4th and 5th in this place, reorganizing my forces, enlisting the prisoners taken, and arming the rest of my men with the arms that were captured. I also formed a hospital, and then reviewed my entire force. I start for Oaxaca to-day; it is already in possession of Colonel Felix Diaz, and the enemy is confined to Santo Domingo, Carmen, and Cerro de la Soledad.

I have sent for General Luis P. Figueroa and Colonel Lopez Orozco, with their respective commands.

Independence and liberty. Miahuatlan, October 6, 1866.

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

The MINISTER OF WAR AND MARINE,

At Chihuahua, (or wherever he may be.)

WASHINGTON, *November* 21, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

List of the killed, wounded, and missing in our division at the battle of the 3d.

INFANTRY BRIGADE, FIELES BATTALION.

Killed.—Julian Lopez, corporal; Lazaro Martinez, Juan de la Cruz, Ignacio Casimiro, José Antonio, Refugio Ramos, and José Bernardo, soldiers.

Wounded.—Juan Martinez, first sergeant; José Toribio, Valentin Perez, Felipe Nieva, Felipe Casanova, Joaquin Mora, Juan Morales, Isidro Hernandez, Juan Caballero, and José Maria Conde, soldiers.

Missing.—Manuel Jimenez and Manuel Olivera.

CHIANTLA BATTALION.

Killed.—Trinidad Tacachi, second sergeant; Lucas Garcia, private.

Wounded.—Felix Rivera, captain; José Maria Robledo, second lieutenant; Jacinto Espinosa and Paulino Garcia, second sergeants; José Huertero, corporal.

Privates: Severino Grajeda, Lorenzo Guevara, Nestor Guadalupe, José Moran, Andres Augustin, and Martin Palmar.

Missing.—Mateo Olea, private.

THE PATRIA BATTALION.

Wounded.—Lieutenant Martin Cortez; Bernardo Pastrana, second sergeant; José Cuenca and Antonio Barrera, privates.

THE MORELOS BATTALION.

Wounded.—Manuel Flores, first sergeant; Miguel Gaspar and Antonio Torres, privates.

Missing.—Pedro Guillermo.

TLAXIACO COMPANY.

Wounded.—Pedro Cruz, private.

MOUNTAIN BATTALION.

Killed.—Juan Riaño.

Wounded.—Martin Nuñez, corporal; Benigno Garcia, Alejo Nuñez, Anacleto Bruno, and Simon Nicolas, privates.

Missing.—Norberto Santiago, corporal; Juan Hernandez and Luis Lopez, privates.

TEHUICINGO COMPANY.

Wounded.—Maximo Soriano, private.

MIAHUATLAN COMPANY.

Killed.—Apolinar Garcia, captain; Anastasio Salmeron, second lieutenant; Luis B. Vazquez, Tomas Perez, Angel Chavez, Manuel Garcia, second sergeants, and Felipe Gareda, cornet. Of the staff: Luciano Olivera, lieutenant.

CAVALRY BRIGADE, PUEBLA LANCERS.

Killed.—Bartolo Hernandez, captain; Jesus Lopez, ensign; Marcelino Rivera, bugler; José Maria Carballido and Mariano Lozano, privates.

Wounded.—Bonifacio Valle, squadron commander; Manuel Mesa, second sergeant; Cecilio Escobar, trumpeter; Tomas Romero, corporal; José Ventura, private.

REFORM SQUADRON.

Killed.—Pedro Lopez, first sergeant; Eduardo Gonzales, corporal; José Rojas, José Estrada, and Manuel Arroyo, privates.

Wounded.—Crescencio Zurita, private.

TEPEXI SQUADRON.

Killed.—Juan Montero, captain; José Maria Espinola and Cristobal Vazquez, privates.

Wounded.—Augustin Olguin, ensign, and Miguel Rodriguez, private.

INDEPENDENCE SQUADRON.

Killed.—Juan Martinez, private.

Wounded.—Santos Zamora, private.

CRUZ PICKETS.

Missing.—José Maria Garcia.

This is a copy of the original:

M. TRAVESI.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

REPUBLICAN ARMY OF THE EAST, FIRST DIVISION.

List of the killed, wounded, and prisoners of the enemy in the battle of the 3d.

Killed of the French.—1 chief, 4 officers, and 15 privates.
Wounded.—3 officers and 6 privates.
Prisoners.—3 officers, 7 soldiers. Total, 1 chief, nine officers, and 28 soldiers.
Traitors killed.—4 officers and 32 privates.
IDEM: *Wounded.*—72 men.
Prisoners—7 officers, 295 men. Total, 11 officers and 399 men.

MIAHUATLAN, *5th October*, 1866.

SAMUEL SANTIBAÑEZ.

A copy of the original:

M. TRAVESI.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

REPUBLICAN ARMY OF THE EAST—FIRST DIVISION HEADQUARTERS.

List of arms, gun-carriages, cartridges, infantry and cavalry equipments, munitions, equipments, and other articles taken from the enemy at the battle of Nogales, near Miahuatlan, on the 3d.

Artillery.—2 mountain howitzers, 4-pounders, with carriages for same; 2 swabs, 2 rammers, 2 ammunition sacks, 4 regulation chests for grenades, 4 sets regulation harness, 129 howitzer cartridges, 41 canisters for same.

Ammunition for infantry.—15,000 ball cartridges for Enfield rifles, 14,240 for percussion guns.

Arms for infantry and cavalry.—330 Enfield rifles, 115 other guns, 5 Mississippi rifles, 2 common rifles, 2 Minie rifles, 37 muskets, (one ounce,) 50 lances, 9 sabres, 186 bayonets for Enfield guns, and 43 others.

5 war chests, 5 cornets, 360 pounds crackers, 100 pounds salt, 17 pounds coffee, 16 pounds of tobacco.

NOTE.—Forty-eight pack mules were taken from the enemy.

MANUEL SANTIBAÑEZ.

MIAHUATLAN, *October 5*, 1866.

A copy of the original:

M. TRAVESI, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 6.]

REPUBLICAN ARMY OF THE EAST—FIRST DIVISION HEADQUARTERS.

List of killed, wounded, prisoners, and deserters of the French at the battle of the 3d.

Testart Zacharie, battalion commander; Ferdinand Bandens, sub-lieutenant; Camille Charles Tamborini, sub-lieutenant; Heduo Luis, Chevrillon Morelle, sergeants; Louis Lelievre, Paul Pouillon, Jean Fouques, Emilie Masson, Jean Weber, Joseph Pigaults, Jean Stoffer, J. Maysen, Boisseau Gontier, Charles Chene, and two other privates whose names are not known.

Wounded.—Captain Charles Mayer, First Lieutenant Sylvester Monlau, (died in hospital,) Sergeant Puech. Privates: Maroc, Augustin, Monteil, Alexander Vandevayer, (died in hospital,) and Desmure.

Prisoners.—Lieutenant Santory Auge Toupain; Louis Eugene Toupain,

Jules Jean Certain, Joseph Marie, Adolphe Fleurch, Nicolas Antoine, Jules François Pinçon, Jules Moracchini, François Moracchini, Victor Adolphe Barat, Albert Vandevayer, Alexander Vandael, and Charles Victor Julienne, privates.

Deserters.—One man, named Le Rick.

A copy of the original:

M. TRAVESI.

List of traitor officers taken prisoners on the 3d of this month and shot, in conformity with the law of the 25th of January, 1862.

Infantry captain Mariano Heras, infantry captain Victoriana Rivas, infantry captain Joaquin Jijon, infantry lieutenant José Maria Flores, sub-lieutenant Benjamin Cabero, Lorenzo Valverde, and Rafael Velasco.

MANUEL SANTIBAÑEZ.

Miahuatlan, *October* 5, 1866.

A copy of the original:

M. TRAVESI, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 7.]

Mexican Republic, San Felipe del Agua,
October 11, 1866.

Esteemed Comrade: Under date of the 4th instant I wrote you, giving you an account of the splendid victory obtained by the force under my command over the expedition coming to attack me at Miahuatlan, under the orders of Oronoz, but knowing that my letter was miscarried, I direct you this, giving you an extract of said letter, in which you will see in brief, with all its details.

About three o'clock of the afternoon of the 3d instant the enemy appeared, advancing rapidly upon this place. I decided to go out immediately and meet him, and leaving General Ramos with the cavalry to detain him a few moments, I placed the infantry quickly on some rising ground that appeared to me advantageous, and soon the enemy opened fire on us. The column of the enemy was composed of 1,200 men, of three arms, of which three hundred were cavalry, and two mountain howitzers. The sharp fire of the enemy was answered with spirit by our advance sharpshooters, and near sunset, noting that the enemy did not make a general attack, and finding myself nearly without munitions, I concluded to attack him, for which purpose I organized my columns and descended from my positions upon the enemy's lines. On crossing the river that separated our positions, the enemy's camp fell into disorder, and on charging them his battalions commenced to run, (having formed in some few groups, making a slight resistance,) followed by our cavalry. They were fast falling into our power, being killed and wounded on the field of battle. All the arms, two pieces of artillery, munitions, say fifty mule loads, and various other effects of war; also, more than four hundred prisoners of war. On the field about eighty killed. Of the French not one escaped. The greater part were killed, and among them their commander, Testard.

The moral effect is greater than the positive triumph. As a consequence, my brother, who was near the capital, (Oaxaca,) occupied it immediately with some force from the hills, and the enemy, filled with panic, made but feeble resistance, shutting themselves in their fortifications of the Cerro, Santa Domingo, and Carmen. After securing the field of battle and reorganizing my forces, that were considerably increased, I marched on the city to direct the siege. Figueroa has to come here with his forces, and I expect momentarily Lopez Orosco, with troops from Costa Chica.

The siege is well organized, and the enemy know well that they cannot re-

ceive assistance. I have my headquarters at this point, which is very convenient for the operations.

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

General ALEJANDRO GARCIA, *Tlacotalpam.*

[Enclosure No. 8.]

NATIONAL ARMY—HEADQUARTERS OF THE MILITARY DIVISION OF THE EAST.

HEADQUARTERS AT LAS MINAS, *October* 18, 1866.

CITIZEN MINISTER: After the battle of Miahuatlan, on the 3d instant, about which an official report has been sent to your department, I marched to Oaxaca, which was besieged by Colonel Felix Diaz, took active measures to perfect the siege and shut up the garrison, and just as I was about assaulting it I heard that a column of 1,500 men, of infantry, cavalry, and artillery, was coming to aid the besieged garrison. I at once left Oaxaca, and came without delay to meet the column. To-day at noon I met the enemy at "La Carbonera." The battle began at 1 p. m. with great tenacity and determination on both sides. It is 7 o'clock p. m., and we are at Las Minas, having followed the enemy for three leagues, and captured 396 Austrian, Polish, and Hungarian prisoners, among whom are seven officers, four mountain rifled guns, over 600 carbines, and great abundance of munitions. I have had some very dear losses.

I have no time to lose, as I must prevent the escape of the enemy, which was at Oaxaca with very good artillery and great abundance of arms, ammunition, and clothing. I will send you afterward a detailed account of this important victory.

Please congratulate the citizen President for it.

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

Citizen MINISTER OF WAR, *Chihuahua.*

No. 107.

Mr Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 30, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 20th instant, containing certain documents relating to recent events on the eastern military line of the Mexican republic, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 6.

THE PRESIDENTIAL TERM OF PRESIDENT JUAREZ.

List of papers.

108. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with 15 enclosures)....June 13, 1866.
109. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....July 7, 1866.

110. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with 3 enclosures).....November 1, 1866.
111. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....November 9, 1966.
112. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with 9 enclosures).....November 21, 1866.
113. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....November 28, 1866.

No. 108.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, June 13, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: For the purpose of keeping the United States government informed of the satisfactory manner in which the decree of November 8, 1865, issued by the constitutional government, has been received in the Mexican republic, by which the prolongation of the period of service of the President until it be possible to hold a new election is decreed, I have the honor to send with this note a copy of No. 11 of the official paper of the government of Mexico, published at the town of Paso del Norte the 8th of March last, which contains a communication from General Garcia Morales, governor and military commander of the State of Sonora, dated at La Noria, the 1st of February previous, and another by the political chief of the Territory of Lower California, addressed to the Mexican consul at San Francisco, who transmitted it to the minister of foreign relations, in which communications both functionaries express the completest approval, and that of Mexicans residing within their respective jurisdictions, of the measure indicated. I also send a copy of No. 16 of the official newspaper of 17th May last past, in which are published two communications on the same matter addressed to the department of foreign relations and government, one by General Don Domingo Rubi, governor and military commander of the State of Sinaloa, and the other by General Ramon Cowna, commanding the united brigades of Sinaloa and Jalisco, in which they manifest their own opinion and that of their subordinates as entirely favorable to said decree. I send also, lastly, various printed acts signed by citizens of the State of Tabasco, in which absolute approval is expressed of the decree prolonging the constitutional term of President Juarez.

I avail gladly of this occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.—Translation.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMAND OF THE STATE OF SONORA,
In camp on the Noria, February 1, 1866.

I have received with positive satisfaction the two decrees issued by the President under date 8th November last, and the circular of the department which accompanied it; the first of them on the prolongation of the functions of the supreme magistrate of the nation, while the condition of the foreign war does not permit the making of a new constitutional election; and the second on the mode of substitution for it, if, during the war, it should fall through.

The anomalous circumstances under which, unfortunately, the republic is placed; the void or silence of the constitution on this point of such vital interest to the country; the spirit of articles of 78, 79, 80, 82 of the same fundamental code; and, finally, the amount of powers which the legislative power

of the Mexican union devolved on the executive at the date of the 11th December, 1861, can superabundantly justify the first of said measures, in which not even the enemies of the government will ever be able to see anything else than the intense zeal of the President for legitimate action, the closest investigation of his determinations, and, above all, his singular self-denial in encountering a position so trying as the present without other recompense than the satisfaction always caused by the discharge of duty, however onerous it may be.

Independence and liberty!

J. GARCIA MORALES.
D. ELIAS, *Secretary.*

The Citizen MINISTER OF RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT,
Paso del Norte.

WASHINGTON, *June* 13, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.—From No. 11 Periodico Official, 8th March, 1866.]

CONSULATE OF MEXICO AT SAN FRANCISCO,
San Francisco, January 24, 1866.

Citizen Antonio Pedrin, political chief of the territory of Lower California, says to me, under date of 16th instant, from San José, as follows:

"With your valued communication, dated 27th December last past, I have received two numbers of the official paper which you had the kindness to send me, in which are published the decrees which the President of the republic issued through the department of foreign relations and government; one relating to the prolongation of the functions of the President, and the other on the responsibilities of General Jesus Gonzalez Ortega.

"In acknowledging the receipt of this communication, I acknowledge with pleasure that, in my opinion, the citizen President could not adopt a more prudent measure, because if it is true that it might affect certain partialities interested in a change of administration, there is nothing more sure than that none of our public men can fill the immense void which would be left in the absence of the power—the father of the Mexican republic.

"By his side we know that we always hold combined faith, honor, and constancy, sustained by the national party—out of it, God only knows what would become of Mexico under actual circumstances."

I have the honor to transmit you this, that you may make report to the President of the republic for his information.

I reiterate to you the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

JOSÉ A. GODOY.

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, *Paso del Norte.*

WASHINGTON, *June* 13, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF SINALOA,
Concordia, December 24, 1765.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt from your department of the circulars of the 28th of October and the 8th of November, and of the decrees issued at the last date.

These supreme dispositions will be rigorously adhered to by this State under my command, for in them we see security to the nation, and the responsibility of those who have abandoned the republic at a critical moment and gone abroad.

These excellent decrees have been ordered to be circulated in the districts, and by general order among the united brigades of Sinaloa and Jalisco.

I make this communication to you for the information of the supreme magistrate of the nation.

Independence and liberty!

DOMINGO RUBI.
F. SEPULVEDA, *Secretary.*

The Citizen MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT,
Chihuahua.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

REPUBLICAN ARMY, HEADQUARTERS OF THE
UNITED BRIGADES OF SINALOA AND JALISCO,
Concordia, December 24, 1865.

The circulars and supreme decrees, issued on the 28th of October and 8th of November from your department, have been received. The good sense of the nation will see in these documents security for the supreme authority of the nation, and a protection to the defenders of national independence, in contrast to those who, bearing the name of soldiers of the republic, desert the flag and leave the country.

These supreme dispositions shall be made known by general order to the men of the united brigades of Sinaloa and Jalisco.

I make this communication to you for the information of the supreme magistrate of the nation.

Independence and liberty!

RAMON CORONA.

The Citizen MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT,
Chihuahua.

[Enclosure No. 5.—Translation.]

The people of Tabasco and citizen Benito Juarez—acts requesting him to remain in office till the end of the war.

TABASCO, 1866.

Third seal.—Fee, four reals.—Executed in the principal administration of Tabasco, for the years 1866 and 1867.

The governor and military commander of the State of Tabasco assembled the inhabitants of San Juan Bautista on the 4th of March, 1866, to ascertain if they were in favor of prolonging the presidential term of citizen Benito Juarez, constitutional President of the Mexican republic, according to decrees issued at Paso del Norte, on the 8th of November last; and to organize the meeting, the governor was called to the chair, and Juan R. de la Rosa was named secretary.

The decree having been read aloud, the object of the meeting being for that purpose, and all present having manifested their will in favor of prolonging the presidential functions of citizen Benito Juarez, the following resolutions were passed unanimously:

1st. The inhabitants of the capital of the State of Tabasco support with all their will and all their strength the decree issued on the 8th of November, 1865, by citizen Benito Juarez, prolonging his presidential term, till circum-

stances allow the nation to hold a constitutional election for his successor; and the inhabitants of the capital of Tabasco acknowledge no other authority than that now exercised by citizen Benito Juarez.

2d. The same people of Tabasco express their full confidence in citizen Benito Juarez, and thank him for the constancy and abnegation with which he has defended the independence and autonomy of the nation.

And thereby this act was concluded and signed by those present, with me, the secretary, to which I certify.

G. Mendez.
M. M. Moreno.
Cornelio Castillo.
Mariano Pedrero, esq.
Francisco de P. Aguilar.
José Payro, esq.
Justo F. Santa Anna.
Tomas Pellicer.
Carlos Zepeda.
J. M. de Codes.
Felomeno Lopez de Aguado.
Rafal Oviedo, esq.
J. A. Paillet.
Sebastian G. Sanarao.
Prudencio P. Rosado.
Carlos Miguel.
Isidro Delgado.
Mateo Pimienta.
Felipe Gonzalez.
J. M. Carretino.
F. Sosa Barbosa.
Manuel A. Peralta.
Juan A. Prado.
M. Payan Ortiz.
Antonio Abad Hernandez.
Leon Alejo Torre.
Ignacio Mayo.
Ziburcio Vazquez.
Olivero Figueroa.
Manuel M. Lombardini.
Marcelino Garcia.
José M. Burelo.
Vicente Damas.
Emetrio Fabre.
Feliciano A. Cao.
J. Longino Diaz.
Anastacio Arjona.
Timoteo Sanchez.
M. Silenciario Rodriguez.
Manuel G. Fuentes.
Felix Amador Diaz.
Estanislao Jimenez.
Joaquin Garcia.
A. Martinez Marin.
Nicolas Herrera Morales.
Manuel Mayo.
Antonio Jesus Diaz.
Pedro Fuentes.
Isidoro Alfaro.
Tranquilino de la Rosa.
José Eugenio Garcia.
Nicolas Hernandez.
Meregildo Chable.
José Isaac Martinez.
Fernando Lozaro.
Cenobio.
Jimenez.
Casiano Gomez.
Matias Mayó, for José Brandespino.
Ignacio Herrera.
Onofre Garcia.
José Trinidad Hernandez.
José M. Flores.
Roman Romero, for self and Francisco Caña.
Juan D. Marufo.
Eusebio Bautista.
José M. Jimenez.
Santiago Rove.
Avelino Lopez.
E. Santa Maria.
Norveto Osorio, for Placido Gonzalez, Bernabe Figuel, and Meliton Suarez
Canuto Balle.
Crescencio Ramon.
J. V. Altamirano.
Telesforo Valle.
Loreto Pinzon.
Manuel de Dios.
Eleuterio Jimenez.
Mauricio Gonzalez.
Estevan Garcia,
Francisco Magaña, and
Estanislas Garcia.
José J. Alfaro.
Doroteo Ortiz.
Mauricio Landero, for self and father.
Felicito Landero.
For me and the citizens Bonifacio de la Cruz, Gregorio Jimenez, Andres Bautista, Loreto Isquierdo.
Evaristo Hernandez,
Pragedis Galicia,
José de la Cruz Galicia,

Bernabe Canto.
Juan Morales, for self and Victoriano Perez.
Juan de la C. Torres.
Trinidad Sevilla.
Ricardo Peña, for self and Bentura Garllardo.
José M. Pagani.
Antonio Gonzales.
José M. Codes, for Damasio Jesus and Felipe Lazaro.
Felipe de J. Lopez.
Florentino Camacho.
Ponciano de la Torre.
Manuel Lara.
Tranquilino Perez.
Manuel Olan, for Urbano Notario, Eustaquio Chapuz, Francisco Cabrales and Saturno Geronimo.
José M. Garcia.
P. Sanlucas Perez, for Benigno Mondragon, Francisco Jesus, Gregorio Cupido and Hilario Arias.
Alejandro Loreto.
Manuel J. Falcon.
Toribio Osorio.
Pablo Castaldi.
Vicente Jimenez.
Juan Medrano.
Piedad Osorio.
Antonio Garcia.
Nicolas Romero.
Casimiro Ramon.
Estanislas Martinez.
José Augustin.
Hilario Arias.
Ildefonso Arias.
Lazaro Garcia.
Aniceto Oliva.
Catalino Osorio.
Juan Garciliano.
Isidoro Hernandez.
Casme Morales.
Roque Garcia.
Leonardo Ramirez.
Teodoro de los Santos.
José del Carmen Baliaje.
Julian Zavala.
Eleuterio Ramos.
Liberato Rodas.
José Osorio.
Pedro Baez.
Ricardo Ramon.
Maximiano Garcia.
Encarnacion Oliva.
Patricio Roda.
Fiburcio Mendoza,
José de la Cruz Gomez, and
Pedro Sanchez.
José Julian Perez.
Augustin Cortez.
Manuel Loebesega.
For me and Marcos Cruces, Caudelario Jimenez.
For my father Martin, Sabino Martinez.
J. Cenobio Alvarez.
Servulo E. Castro.
For citizen Isidor Garcia, Servulo E. Castro, Meliton Gomez.
J. Leon Mendez.
Joaquin Tellez.
Prudencio de la Rosa.
José Gil Ramos.
For citizens Lazaro Mendoza, Nicolas Corzo.
Victorio Chable.
Benigno Mendoza.
José Maria Ramon.
Clemente Ramon.
Victoriano Ramos.
Faustino Garcia.
Paufilo Perez.
Juan Garcia.
Manuel Lopez.
Frederico Lopez.
José A. Jimenez.
Antonio de la Cruz.
Santiago Loreto.
Vicente Osorio.
Maria Mendoza.
Cosme Morales.
Tenorio Jimenez.
Juan Mondragon Cañon.
Eusebio Osorio.
Augustin Roche.
Juan de la Cruz Sanchez.
Eduardo Mendoza.
For me and Gregorio Dominguez, Francisco S. Léal, Severino Sanchez, Antonio Soler, Sisto Cordero, Victoriano Olivas, Marcial Gil Morgas, Amego del C. Isaac Sandoval, and for me, Pablo Estrada.
Amieto Guzman.
Victorio Garcia.
Ruperto Mendoza.
Remigio Carraseo.
Justo Perez.
José M. Gonzales.
Aniceto Jimenez.
Teodoro Mayo.

Juan José Perez, and
Ildefonso Geronimo, and
Prudencio de la Cruz.
Saturno Geronimo.
Rafael Lopez.
Pedro Osorio.
Tomas Sosa Ortiz.
Felipe S. Dias.
Domingo G. Magana.
Dolores Ramos.
Sylvestre Perez.
Eugenio Carrillo.
Natividad Ramos.
Perfecto Gil.
Manuel Galvez.
Manuel R. Valenzuela.
José Natividad Rodriguez.
Fidencio Hernandez.
Manuel Morales.
Pablo V. Ortiz.
For me and citizens Juan Pedro Leon and Matias Barriento, Aniceto Correa.
Santiago P. Nuñez.
Ignacio Velazquez.
Faustino Interiano.
Felipe Zurita.
Canuto Sanchez.
Amador Morales.
Filomeno Cordova.
José M. Argaes.
For me and citizens Perfecto de Dios, Caetano Barriento, Fiburcio Juarez, Frodan R. Hernandez.
G. Forralba.
Candelario Vesa.
Prospero Diaz.
C. Callejas.

JUAN R. DE LA ROSA, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 6.]

In the city of San Antonio de Cardenas, on the 25th of February, 1866, I, José Leandro Dominguez, acting subaltern chief of this place, intending to give due effect to the superior disposition from the headquarters of the eastern line relative to the Mexicans in this State, declare freely their opinion whether or not they agree that the well-deserving citizen Benito Juarez shall continue to exercise the presidency in accordance with the supreme decree issued by him in Paso del Norte on the 8th of November last, and in conformity with the superior consent of the government of the State, communicated to us by the chief prefect of the district, have summoned all the inhabitants within the jurisdiction of this city for that purpose, who being present and being informed of the opinion of the headquarters of the eastern line, and of the circumstances that caused the prolongation, by decree, of the presidency of the well-deserving citizen Benito Juarez, who by his heroism, constancy, abnegation, and patriotism has lent such important services to the nation, particularly in the present foreign war, by which he has earned the title of well-deserving of the Americas, they declared unanimously that they accept in all form the mentioned supreme decree, issued at Paso del Norte on the 8th November, 1865, and by the same they recognize and will recognize citizen Benito Juarez as President of the Mexican republic, in conformity with article 1st of the supreme decree already mentioned. And to confirm it, they all sign with me, giving as concluded this act, which will be sent in original to the governor of the State, to act upon it as he may think proper.

L. Dominguez.
P. Valenzuela.
P. J. Sanchez.
Manuel A. Hernandez.
Candelario Ibarra.
José D. Casanoba.
Francisco G. Echoegaray.
Gumecindo Rendon.
Augustin de la Fuente.
Francisco Romero.
Winceslao Ojeda.
Ramon A. Echalaz.
R. E. Cecia.
Teodoro Rosaldo.
Miguel Hernandez.
José M. Lopez.
Mariano Alfaro.
Rufino Tua.
Andres Casino.
Cornelio Gamas.

Juan G. Sanchez.
Francisco Casanova.
Rufino Perez.
Gregorio Sanchez.
Juan Gongora.
Marcos F. Rosales.
Macedonio Cortes.
Manuel Palma.
Guillermo Colorado.
Casiano Guzman.
Salvador Novarola.
Felipe Gonzales.
Dolores Gallegos.
J. Crescencio Zapatos.
Antonio Veer.
Manuel Orlaineta.
José M. Fleite.
Miguel Lara.
Pedro Sanches Gallegos.
Pedro Torres.
Francisco P. y Zapata.
Pedro C. P. y Lopez, by order of my father Manuel Gallegos, for myself and citizens Pioquinto Cuevas and Pioquinto Ortiz, who cannot write.
Antonio Ruiz, for myself and the policeman Roman Perez, Feliciano Aguilar, and Anastacio Lopez, who cannot write.
Hilario Fuentes.
Eligio Gamas.
Ramon Rodriguez.

[Enclosure No. 7.]

In the city of Santiago de Teapa, of the free and sovereign State of Tabasco, on the 25th of February, 1866, the principal inhabitants of the district assembled in the City Hall, by invitation of the civil prefect, to learn public opinion in regard to the decree of the 8th of November last, in which citizen Benito Juarez, constitutional President of the republic, for just reasons of necessity, which he gives, has been forced to prolong the supreme government of the republic in his own person. The decree in question having been read, and the one of the same date deposing citizen Jesus Gonzalez Ortega from his place of president of the supreme court of justice, and the official note of the commander of the eastern line, which says that General Jesus Gonzalez Ortega, as president of the court of justice, protested in the United States against the decree that prolongs the presidency of the person now holding the office, the presiding authority observed that the people of the present meeting could now express their opinions and wishes freely and voluntarily in regard to the continuation in office of citizen Benito Juarez, interim President of the republic. By virtue of the full powers with which he is invested, and the necessity of not leaving the government without a head, he was compelled to issue the decree that had been read; and all the citizens present unanimously, without dissent and without discussion, (for it was deemed unnecessary,) adopted the following resolutions:

ARTICLE 1. Citizen Benito Juarez is recognized, received, and obeyed as President of the Mexican republic till it can be freed from its enemies, now occupying a large portion of its territory by force of arms, and till a new constitutional election for a chief of the republic can take place.

ART. 2. A vote of thanks is given to the well-deserving citizen Benito Juarez, for his self-denial and the many sacrifices he has made of his person on the altar of his country by continuing in the supreme command of the republic while it is laboring under its present trials and tribulations.

ART. 3. An act is made out containing these resolutions, the original of which is to be sent to the citizen governor and military commander of the State, through the proper source, and for consequent action.

And thereby this act closes, all present signing it.

José M. Bastar.
Silverio R. Garido.
Fernando Carrillo.
Augustin Figueroa.
Cecilio Pedrero.
Ramon J. Pedrero.
Evaristo Carrera.
Rudecindo R. Carrillo.

Joaquin Gonzalez.
Julian Castro.
Cristobal Castro.
Juan M. Pinto.
José Hipolito Ramos.
Ramon F. Palavicini.
José Becerra.
M. Zapata.
Tomas Casanova.
Augustin Gonzalez.
Francisco Quintero.
Luis M. del Valle.
Juan Pio Zurita.
Fulgencio Palavicini.
Augustin Roca.
J. Victor Fernandez.
Geronimo Ricalde.
Manuel Melo.
Gabriel Berrueta.
Benigno Palavicini.
Segundo Palavicini.
Miguel N. Casanova.
C. Giorgana.
P. Vuelta.
A. Conde.
Fulgencio E. Casanova.
Nicolas Padilla.
Juan M. Pinto, for Simeon Rodriguez.
Manuel Arrivillaga.
Ramon F. Palavicini, for Leon Mendez.
Vicente F. Melo.
N. Resendes.
Felix A. de Castro.
Ramon F. Ramos.
Sebastian Zapata.
Pedro Medina.
Marcelino Gonzalez.
José Puig y Sevilla.
Manuel R. Solis.
Rafael Giorgana.
Eduardo Bastar.
M. Saturnino Basan.
Clemente Hernandez.
José Arguelles.
Tiburcio Carrera.
M. de la Flor.
Anselmo Escobar.
José Gurria.
José Prats.

BERNARDO DE AGUILA, *Secretary*.

[Enclosure No. 8.]

In the town of Navidad de Cunduacan, on the 27th of February, 1866, a considerable number of citizens assembled in the hall of the civil prefect, to consider a circular issued by the general-in-chief of the eastern line, on the 1st instant, and sent to the supreme government of the State, requiring the people to express their sentiments freely in regard to the permanency of citizen Juarez in the office of President of the republic, till the conclusion of the present war.

First. The town of Cunduacan acknowledges citizen Benito Juarez as the only legitimate President of the republic, by virtue of the decree which he was pleased to issue on the 8th of November last, at Paso del Norte, and by which he now exercises the functions of President of the republic.

Second. The town of Cunduacan gives its vote of confidence in the worthy President, citizen Benito Juarez, for the energy and firmness with which he has sustained the flag and honor of the republic against foreign invasion.

Third. In conformity with the mandate of the superior government of the State in the said circular, the present act is addressed to him in original by the civil prefect.

Rafael A. Quevedo.
For myself and Locadio Ruis, Rafael Taraseno.
For me and Mr. Eugenio Sanchez, Wenseslao Fuentes.
C. de la Fuentes.
Concepcion Reyes.
Francisco Fuentes.
Sebastian Garcia.
Noverto Fuentos.
Francisco Burelo.
Manuel Priego.
S. Alpuin.
Evaristo Trujillo.
José del C. Sastre.
Santos Cruces.
Isidro Naranjo.
José Martin Cupido.

For me and citizen Francisco Madri, Miguel Lopez.
Pedro Cabrera.
For me and Annario Presenda, José de Jesus Ross.
For me and citizen Leandro de Dios, José Z. Marin.
For me and Serapio Custodio, José M. Cupido.
E. Presenda.
Antonio Cabrera.
Deciderio G. Rosado.
Presbitero Manuel Sabino Contreras.
M. Sanchez Marmol.
Pedro F. Heredia.
José M. A. Angle.
José Angel Cortasa.
Juan E. Priego.
Procopio T. y Torres.
Federico Guzman.
Manuel Crespo.
Caciano Cruz de la Peña.
For me and citizen Juan Crisostomo Fuentes, Mariano Inurreta.
Antonio Angles.
For me and Manuel Taracena, José M. Collado.
For me and José Garcia, Gregorio Basso.
Juan de Dios Lopez.
Juan de N. Aguilar.
For me and citizen José Jesus Zapata, Juan G. Taracena.
José Bernardo Aparicio.
Arcadio Zentella.
Sarapio E. Zentella.
José M. B. Angle.
Francisco Pareira Sastre.
For me, Rev. Father Silvestre Valenzuela, and for me, Alejandro Valenzuela, Manuel Fuentes.
Miguel Torres Mazo.
Marcelino Gutierrez.
Bartolome Victorica.

[Enclosure No. 9.]

In the town of San Isidro Comalcalco, on the 25th of February, 1866, the people of the place assembled in the Town Hall, by summons of the civil prefect, from an order of the superior State government, dated the 17th instant; and the circular of the general-in-chief of the eastern line having been read to the people assembled, in regard to the protest of citizen Jesus Gonzalez Ortega against the supreme decree issued by citizen Benito Juarez, prolonging his functions as President of the republic as long as the cruel war waged against us by France may last, endeavoring to impose an imperial government upon us; and the meeting having been addressed by the civil chief, stating that the persons present were requested to give their opinions upon these questions, of so much importance in the present condition of the country, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

1. Citizen Benito Juarez is recognized as President of the republic, because he is the only person in whom the Mexicans have confidence, as with so much faith and abnegation he has supported the national cause and sustained the flag of his country.

2. The pretensions of General Gonzalez Ortega to assume the presidency of the nation by right of his position as president of the supreme court of justice, is disavowed and rejected, as he was not in the country at the time.

3. Let this act be communicated to the citizen governor of the State, as the free vote of the inhabitants of the town of Comalcalco, and in accordance with the will of all Mexicans faithful to the national cause.

And thereby this act closes, and is signed by all citizens present, and by me, the secretary, who certify it.

Victor Gonzales.
P. Mendez.
B. Fuente.
José A. Ferrer.
Miguel Bosada.
Francisco Hernandez Ubaldo Gonzalez.
Perfecto Diaz Asenso.
Aniceto Cordova.
José Mariano Hernandez.

Francisco Chapus.
Cenon de los Santos.
José M. Arjona.
Jose M. Graniel.
Pascual Villanueva.
Simon A. Garcia.
Estevan Garcia.
Domingo Ceballos.
Manuel Flores.
Evaristo Enrique.
Manuel A. Martinez.
Sebastian Burelo.
Juan J. Arevalo.
Francisco M. Collado.
Luis Gonzalez Gongola.
Andreas Ceballas.
Federico Gomez.
Angel Peralta.
R. Rojo.
F. Canton.
Anatasio Flores.
Onesifero Diaz y Pinson.
Felipe B. Calderon.
Jose Maria Perez Romero.
J. Dionisio Prado Pacheco.
Pedro Mendez Boza.
Faustino Perez Romero.
Nicolas Suarez.
Carmen Mendez.
Faustino Alonzo.
Manuel Perez.
Matias M. Hernandez.
Teodoro Perez.
Pedro J. Fernandez.
Jesus Prado Pacheco.
Julian Gil y Tantos.
Feliciano Cordova.
Mamerto Gonzales.
J. Rafael Martinez.
José A. Gonzales.
José Dionisio Castellano.

[Enclosure No. 10.]

In the town of San Antonio de Padua de Nacajuca, on the 28th of February, 1866, the inhabitants assembled in the Prefects' Hall to consider a circular from the governor and military commander of the State, dated the 17th, and containing a note from the general-in-chief and military commander of the eastern line, of the 1st, stating the disagreeable and serious question that has arisen in the country, and even outside of it, in consequence of the protest of General Jesus Gonzalez Ortega, while in the United States, against the decrees of the supreme government of the republic, of the 8th of November last, and aspiring to the supreme magistracy, as president of the court of justice; and the documents having been read, the civil chief invited those present to express their opinions, in accordance with the wish of the circular. The vote was unanimous for citizen Benito Juarez, the legitimate president of the republic, to continue in office till a new election could take place.

And thereby this act concluded, and is signed by all present, and certified to by me, the secretary.

José del R. Perez.
R. Leon.
Hilario Leyva.
José M. Ramon.
Matias Ybancovich.
Melecio Denis.
Perfecto Ramon.
P. Ferrer.
Manuel R. Alvarez.
Claudio Rodriguez.
Eusebio Ruiz.
Ildefonso Esperon.
Manuel A. Mendez.
Manuel A. de Leon.
At the request of Francisco Marquez, Manuel A. de Leon.
For citizens Mariano Olan, José Salome Lopez, Manuel Lopez, Juan Mogaña, Narciso Garcia, Gaspar Lopez, Claudio Brabata, Gabino Sanchez, Domingo Burelo, José Quirino Soberano, Hilario Leyva.
For citizens Cecilio Perez, Urbano Marquez, Manuel Aumada, (can't write,) Antonio Esperon.
Candelario Flores.
For citizens José Antonio Soberano Yannario Sanchez, José Amado Ribera, Francisco Cupil and Epigmenio Burelo, José M. Fuentes.
Manuel C. Diaz.
José Contreras.

For C. Feliciano Lazaro, same.
José M. Arias.
Cruz Mier y Celis.
Justo Sanchez.
C. Flores.
Augustin Gomez.
J. H. Leoniso.
Baltazar Hernandez.
Marcos Ney.
Carlos Frias.
Felix Marquez.
Manuel Olan.
For my father, Manuel Rodriguez, Crecencio Perez.
For J. del C. Olan, Manuel A. Mendez.
Manuel Mendez Varga.
Manuel R. Rizo.
Juan de D. Gomez.
Raymundo Gordillo.
Juan Cordova.
Rosalino Olan.
José Maria Clemente.
Marcos Perez.
Francisco Magdonel.
José del Rosario.
G. Perez.
B. de J. Leon.
Juan Crisostomo Isidro.
Domingo Gomez.
José Rio Peña.
Gabino Ramon.
Cirilo May.
J. Luis Ramon.

JOSÉ M. FUENTES, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 11.]

In the town of Huimanguillo, chief town of the district of the same name, on the 4th of March, 1866, the authorities and inhabitants, together with the people of Riberas, met to consider the governor's circular of the 26th February, requesting the opinion of the people whether citizen Benito Juarez shall continue as President of the nation till the end of the present war. The vote having been taken, it was unanimously agreed that Juarez, who had sustained the national cause under such trying circumstances, should retain the presidency till the close of the war.

And thereupon the present act was concluded and signed by all present and by me, the secretary, to which I testify.

José M. Sol.
F. Tronco Montero.
Francisco de S. Colorado.
Bruno Girodo.
Bernardino Fuentes.
Francisco Molina.
Crescencio D. Gallegos.
Antonio del Valle.
J. Salomon Reyes.
Francisco Mendez.
José Pidad Gallegos.
Guadalupe Pardo.
José Angel Calles.
Miguel A. Gonzali.
Mariano Colorado.
Ignacio Lara.
Julian Cadenas.
Quirino Mendez.
Celso Montiel.
Pablo Sanchez.
José M. Lopez.
Pablo Alpuche.
Anastasio Hernandez.
Anselmo Hernandez.
José M. Morales.
Pedro Priani.
Macedonio Acuña.
Juan B. Perez.
Amado Palma.
Vicente Aguilar.
Feliciano Garcia.
Gabriel Salaya.
Dimicio Sanchez.
Francisco Troncoso.
Juan Campo Seco.
Francisco Rueda.
Lorenzo Contreras.
José Aguilar.
Felipe S. Fuentes.
Patricio Cortasa.
Amado Bettran.
Rafael Diaz.
Carmen Hernandez.
Manuel Garduzar.

[Enclosure No. 12.]

In the town of Balancan, chief place of the district of the same name, on the 25th of February, 1866, the inhabitants assembled in a place designated by the chief civil functionary, where a communication from the citizen governor and military commander of the State, dated the 17th instant, with another from the headquarters of the eastern line, dated the 1st, was read, the substance of which was, that citizen Benito Juarez, by a decree of the 8th of November of last year, had prolonged his powers as president of the Mexican republic, as an election could not take place, as prescribed by the fundamental charter of the nation, as long as this war lasted; and the vote having been taken, it was freely and unanimously declared that the well-deserving citizen Benito Juarez should retain the presidency of the republic till the termination of the war.

And thereupon this act was concluded and signed by all present, with the proper authentication.

C. N. Ramirez.
D. Gutierrez Julian Quintero.
Miguel A. Bustamente.
Severo Arevalo.
Calisto J. Rubio.
Joaquin Alcocer.
Candelario Martinez.
Sisto Argaez.
Francisco Lisarraga.
José M. Tonsum.
Domingo L. de Llergo.
Francisco Abreu.
Roman Parra.
Juan P. Rivera.
Vicente Moreno.
For citizens Juan P. Rivera, Anastasio Alpuche, Evaristo Lazaro, and Francisco E. Lisarraga.
Felipe Garcia.
Faustino Solano.
For citizens Francisco de la Cruz, Genaro Moreno, Ciriaco Jimenez, and Candelario Martinez.
For citizens José Cano, Telesforo Ordoñes, and Baltasar Masariego, Francisco Abreu.
Luis Rodriguez.
At the request of citizens Ambrosio Dorantes, Espiridon Acate, Carmen Alias, José J. Terron, and Miquel Ramirez, Luis Rodriguez.
Nicolas Baesa.
Manuel Zetina.
At the request of citizen Marcello Ribera, Francisco Moreno.
Roman Perez.
Segundo Baeza.
For citizen Iguacio Losa, J. Dionisio Ramirez.
Juan E. Perez.
Antonio Barroso.

J. Domingo Ramirez, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 13.]

In the town of Jalpa, capital of the district of the same name, on the 25th of February, 1866, the undersigned citizens assembled, under the presidency of the chief civil authority, and the meeting being called to order, the circular from the headquarters of the eastern line was read, requesting the free expression of opinion about the continuation of citizen Benito Juarez in office as President of the republic, in accordance with the decree of the 8th of November last; and considering that nothing is more just than to confirm, by popular vote, the worthy citizen who has given so many proofs of loyalty, patriotism, and abnegation in the sacred cause sustained by the nation, in his office, and to declare that the continuation of citizen Benito Juarez in power, under present circumstances, is in fact a guarantee of national independence and acknowledged principles, have proposed and adopted the following resolutions:

ART. 1. The inhabitants of this place unanimously favor the permanency of citizen Benito Juarez in the office of first magistrate of the nation, according to the principles established in the supreme decree before mentioned.

ART. 2. Let the original of this act be addressed to the citizen governor and military commander of the State for his superior information and consequent action.

Done in duplicate, and signed by all present, and attested by the secretary.

Feliciana Martinez.
José Rafael Ferrer.
J. Maricio Ferrer.
Manuel M. Caralvo.
Antonio Ortiz.
Sisto Garcia.
José Antonio Zapata.
Vicente Ferrer.
Pomposo Martinez.
Francisco Ferrer.
Ramon Guzman.
Vicente Hernandez.
José A. Garcia.
Pablo A Marquez.
José A. Dominguez.
J. Eligio Alejandro.
Claudio Vasquez.
José M. Vasquez.
Manuel Garcia.
Pedro A. Gonzalez.
José M. Guzman.
Macedonio Hernandez.
J. Rafael Caraveo.
Juan J. Guzman.
Nicolas Hernandez.
Juan E. Perez.
Fernando Carillo.
Antonio Vira.
Cresuncio Majaña.
Excequiel Gomez.
J. Victor Magaña.
Fidencio Ferrer.
J. M. Ferrer.
J. del Rosario Ferrer,
José del C. Ferrer.
José Leandro Vinagre.
Francisco Dominguez.
José Jesus Martinez.
Cecilio Dominguez.
Andres Gonzalez.
J. Inez Castillo.
J. Guadalupe Lopez.
For my step-father, Victor Lopez, and the people of the Palma ward, Juan J. Montejo.
For citizen Clemente Ramon, and at the request of citizens of Candelaria ward, Juan J. Montejo.
For citizen Estanislas Hernandez, and at the request of citizens of St. Luis ward, Juan J. Montejo.
For citizen Pioquinto Mendez, and at the request of citizens of Santa Anna ward, Juan J. Montejo.
At the request of citizen Aniceto de la Cruz, José D. Guzman.
On the petition of citizen Pedro Alejandro, J. Rafael Caraveo.

JOSÉ D. GUZMAN, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 14.]

In the town of San Marcos del Paraiso, on the 25th of February, 1866, a great number of inhabitants having met in the City Hall by special invitation of citizen Faustino Morales, subaltern civil chief of this place, who presided at the meeting and stated that a communication of the 25th instant, relative to the decrees issued by the supreme government of the republic at Paso del Norte on the 8th of November last, prolonging the functions of the actual President till the end of the foreign war, required the vote of the people thereon; and the decree prosecuting General Jesus Gonzalez Ortega having been read with the other, the vote was taken whether citizen Benito Juarez should continue to hold the supreme power of the republic. It was resolved that as there were good and powerful reasons for the supreme government to issue those important documents, as, owing to a state of war, no election for his successor could take place; and considering that citizen Benito Juarez, for the constancy and firmness with which he has sustained the honor and integrity of the nation in its prolonged

contest with France, not only deserves the public confidence of his fellow-citizens, but deserves to be made perpetual President of the magnanimous and powerful Mexican republic, because he has won a reputation for it far superior to the decrepit nations of Europe, and has sustained its standard with dignity, maintaining the national autonomy which has never swerved from the great principles contained in the code of 1857, the people therefore will that he continue in command according to the prescriptions of the said decrees, and adopt the following resolutions:

1. The inhabitants of the town of Paraiso, loving and admiring the great civic virtues that adorn the enlightened citizen Benito Juarez, and having a decided confidence in his loyalty, constancy, and abnegation in defence of the independence of his country, all agree that he shall continue to direct the supreme destiny of the country, as directed by the decree of the 8th of November last.

2. That a copy of this act be sent to the civil chief of the district, to be communicated to the superior government of the State and to the chief of the eastern line, giving the opinions and votes of the subscibers.

And thereupon the meeting adjourned, after the act had been signed by all present and by me, the secretary, who testifies to the same.

Faustino Morales.
Francisco Magaña.
Gabino de los Santos.
For citizens Florencio Tejada, José Angel Tejada, and Luis Alejandro, Francisco Magaña.
For citizens José Maria Alejandro, Merced Cordova, and Ramon Perez, Guadalupe Romero.
Fructuoso Hernandez.
For citizens Pedro Abalos, Juan Tomas Flores, and Cresencio Gongora, Gavino de los Santos.
Jorge Garcia.
Teodosio Magaña.
Vicente Vazque.
For me and citizens Policarpio Dominguez, and Julian Domingnez, Timoteo Alejandro, Claudio Alejandro.
Evaristo Perez.
Antonio Romero.
Pablo de la Cruz.
Cenobio de los Santos.
For me and citizens Bonifacio Collado, Juan Hidalgo Balboa, José Maria Sanchez, and Joaquin Pelegrino, Castulo A. Vera.
For me and citizens Juan Dominguez, Luis Magaña, Sebero Perez, and Claudio Carrillo, Salvador Hernandez, Ramon Garcia.
For me and citizens Pablo Abalos, Andres Rodriguez, Juan Diego Izquierdo, and Juan Villareal, Juan B. Hernandez, Timoteo Alejandro.
Pablo Cancin.
Rafael Abalos.
José Jesus Abalos.
José E. Alejandro.
Victor Perez.
Juan Pablo Palma.
Petronilo Perez.
Severo Dominguez.
Petronilo Magaña.

This is a true copy of the original, and I certify to it.

PETRONILO MAGAÑA,
Secretary.

[Enclosure No. 15.]

In the town of Santa Cruz de Chichicapa, district of Comalcalco, on the 3d day of March, 1866, the inhabitants assembled in the Town Hall by invitation of the subaltern civil chief, who read a communication from the commander of the eastern line, submitting an important question to the decision of the people, namely, the attempt of General Jesus Gonzalez Ortega to rob the presidency from the worthy citizen Benito Juarez. Considering that the supreme decree of the 8th of November last, issued in Paso del Norte, is a just and necessary

measure, as it saves us from a crisis, because an election for President cannot take place, on account of war, in accordance with the fundamental code of 1857, and as citizen Juarez could not vacate the place, because citizen Gonzalez Ortega, who was to fill it, was absent at the time; and whereas war should settle all home disputes, the people of Chichicapa, free to vote on national questions, have agreed upon and adopted the following resolutions:

1. The well-deserving citizen Benito Juarez, as the only man whom the Mexicans have trusted and can trust, is acknowledged and shall be recognized as President of the repulic.

2. We reject the protest of General Jesus Gonzalez Ortega against the supreme decree of the 8th of November last, with all our energy and power.

3. We also reject any other future protest that may be made against the acts of [Rest of the pamphlet is wanting.]

No. 109.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 7, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 13th ultimo, containing a copy of No. 11 of the official paper of your government, publishing certain letters of Mexican citizens with regard to the decree prolonging the presidential term, and to thank you for the information.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 110.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, November 1, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to enclose to you a printed pamphlet containing forty-nine acts of the principal official corporations, and particularly of the councils of the most important towns in the State of Chiapas, in the Mexican republic, acknowledging the legality and expediency of the decrees issued on the 8th of November last by the government of Mexico, in one of which the duration of the term of office of the President of the republic was extended till a popular election could take place, which was impossible at that time (and is yet) on account of the foreign invasion.

With this opportunity, I am pleased to repeat to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. ..]

The State of Chiapas to citizen Benito Juarez, expressing the popular sentiment by approval of his decrees of the 8th of November last.

The people of Chiapas, reposing quietly in the sincerity of their preference for citizen Benito Juarez as President of the republic, have accepted without hesitation, and even with pleasure, the supreme decree of the 8th of November of last year, prolonging the presidential period during the time the hazardous circumstances of the present foreign war may last, and till, when the war is over, he who receives the popular suffrage may take charge of the government.

It was never once presumed that the termination of the constitutional period of the presidency of Juarez would be the signal of alarm to the low, mean, miserable passions of certain statesmen, who, coveting the exalted position, forget their honored antecedents, their dignity of free citizens, and even the critical circumstances in which the republic is now struggling. The protest of Manuel Ruiz, ex-minister of the supreme court of justice of the nation, and reports of other protests, only serve to increase the dislike to personalities, and the esteem and affection for the intelligent and virtuous Juarez, who has no other aspiration, no other wish, no other desire, than the safety and happiness of his country. The people of Chiapas, following the inclinations of their conscience and their heart, and in conformity with the wishes at headquarters of the eastern line, hastened to express their will by means of acts indicating their adhesion, trust, and confidence in the present worthy chief of the republic, in whom the country has placed its hopes with just cause; for to suspect a man who, during the last revolution of three years, led the people in triumph to the glorious conquest of the sacred principle of legality, would be to commit a crime.

To show that the people of Chiapas are grateful, and know how to appreciate the virtues of the well-beloved citizen; to prove to the enemies of the country that the heroic example set by the chief of the republic will always be seconded with enthusiasm by the simple but brave people who will defend their rights and liberties at the cost of every sacrifice; to demonstrate to the ambitious, who think themselves necessary to the government, that the people are not now what they were in common revolutionary times, when common persons, such as Santa Anna, contended for power, we will let them know, once for all, that the people think, judge, reward, and punish; that, taught by the experience of the long civil war to distinguish sincerity from hypocrisy, they have learned what is true patriotism, and have determined to estimate it properly by suitable rewards, and have learned the false machinations of ambition, to despise them and punish them.

The following documents show the truth of all this, as our readers will be pleased to find:

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AND MILITARY COMMANDER
OF THE STATE OF CHIAPAS,
Comitan, March 6, 1866.

The commander of the eastern line wrote to the governor and military commander of the State, on the 1st of February, as follows: "A serious question has arisen in the country and beyond it; citizen Benito Juarez, as constitutional President of the republic, on the 8th of November last continued his duties as such, as you will see by the enclosed decree in the official bulletin, No. 29. It is said that General Jesus Gonzalez Ortega protested against the decree while in the United States, as president of the supreme court of justice, which capacity is not accorded to him by citizen Juarez, as you will see in the decree of the 8th of November, which is also published in the bulletin. The

exceptional circumstances in which the present foreign war has placed the nation prevents an election of a supreme magistrate to rule the destinies of the country according to the constitution, and though the opinion is already formed at headquarters in favor of the existing order of things, because it believes that citizen Benito Juarez has a right to the presidency by virtue of his first election, in accordance with our actual laws, yet it wishes to know the opinion of the eastern line in the affair; and therefore I address myself to you, to have the vote taken, in the manner you think most proper, of all good Mexicans found in the jurisdiction of your worthy command, and report to me if it conforms to my opinion, for my information and consequent action." I communicate this to you by supreme command, for your information and that of authorities under you, to whom you will make it known, that they may act as their conscience dictates for the true interests and general good of the country.

Country and liberty!

RAMIREZ.

The CIVIL CHIEF AND MILITARY COMMANDER
of the Department of ———.

(The rest of the pamphlet contains the resolutions of corporations, learned societies, and popular meetings in nine different departments of the State of Chiapas, approving the decree of the 8th of November extending the presidential term of office. The form of these resolutions has been frequently translated in former communications to this department.)

[Enclosure No. 2.]

The acts are from the following corporations:

No. 1. Supreme court of the State of Chiapas, San Cristobal las Casas, March 18, 1866.
No. 2. Literary University of the same State, San Cristobal las Casas, March 10, 1866.

Department of Comitan.

No. 3. Political and military command of the department of Comitan, Comitan, March 10, 1866.
No. 4. Military command of the department of Comitan, Comitan, March 6, 1866.
No. 5. Ayuntamiento of the department of San Bartolomé de los Llanos, March 13, 1866.
No. 6. Political command of the same department, March 31, 1866.
No. 7. Ayuntamiento of Zapaluta, March 19, 1866.
No. 8. Ayuntamiento of Zocoltenango, March 15, 1866.
No. 9. Political command of Zocoltenango, March 15, 1866.
No. 10. Court of the department of Comitan, April 7, 1866.

Department of San Cristobal.

No. 11. Ayuntamiento of San Cristobal las Casas, March 14, 1866.
No. 12. First battalion of Chiapas, San Cristobal las Casas, March 14, 1866.
No. 13. Ayuntamiento of Teopisco, March 13, 1866.
No. 14. Ayuntamiento of San Juan Bautista Chamula, March 13, 1866.
No. 15. Ayuntamiento of San Lorenzo Zinacantan, March 21, 1866.
No. 16. Ayuntamiento of Amatenango, March 16, 1866.
No. 17. Criminal court of San Cristobal las Casas, April 3, 1866.
No. 18. Court of San Pedro Chenalko, March 17, 1866.

No. 19. Court of Huertan, March 6, 1866.
No. 20. Courts of Santa Maria Magdalena, March 30, 1866.
No. 21. Courts of Santa Marta, March 30, 1866.

Department of Chiapas.

No. 22. Ayuntamiento of Chiapas city, March 14, 1866.
No. 23. Court of the department of Chiapas, March 25, 1866.

Department of Tuxtla Gutierres.

No. 24. Ayuntamiento of Tuxtla Gutierres city, March 14, 1866.
No. 25. Military and political command of the department, March 14, 1866.
No. 26. Court of the county of Tuxtla Gutierres, March 31, 1866.
No. 27. Ayuntamiento of Ocosocuantla, March 24, 1866.
No. 28. Courts of Ocosocuantla, March 24, 1866.
No. 29. Ayuntamiento of Zintalapa, March 27, 1866.
No. 30. Ayuntamiento of Tomala city, March 26, 1866.
No. 31. Court of the Tomala county, March 20, 1866.
No. 32. Ayuntamiento of Mapastepec, April 5, 1866.
No. 33. Ayuntamiento of Pigigiappa, March 31, 1866.

Department of Simojovel.

No. 34. Political and military command of department, March 19, 1866.
No. 35. Ayuntamiento of San Juan, March 18, 1866.
No. 36. Court of Simojovel county, March 17, 1866.
No. 37. Ayuntamiento of San Juan Bautista Istobol, March 17, 1866.
No. 38. Ayuntamiento of Simojovel, March 17, 1866.

Department of Pichucalco

No. 39. Political and military command of the department, March 27, 1866.
No. 40. Ayuntamiento of Pichucalco, March 27, 1866.
No. 41. Court of the department, March 28, 1866.
No. 42. Courts of the city of Pichucalco, March 31, 1866.

Department of Soconusco.

No. 43. Ayuntamiento of Zapachula, March 28, 1866.
No 44. Political and military command of Zapachula, March 28, 1866.
No. 45. Ayuntamiento of Tuxtla Chico city, March 25, 1866.

Department of Chilon.

No. 46. Political and military command of the department, Ocozingo city, March 8, 1866.
No. 47. Ayuntamiento of Chilon, April 11, 1866.

Department of Palenque.

No. 48. Ayuntamiento of Palenque, April 13, 1866.
No. 49. Ayuntamiento of San José, Catasapa city, April 14, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

The governor of the State of Chiapas to the citizens of the State.

FELLOW-CITIZENS: The supreme government of the republic having issued the decree of November 8, by which the powers of the actual President—the citizen Benito Juarez—are continued until a constitutional election of the person who can substitute him can be held, the government of this State has accepted

it without any objection; convinced, as I feel, of the legal foundation upon which it is based, of the urgent necessity which authorizes it, and that, in the distressing circumstances through which the nation is now passing, it was not possible to act otherwise without sacrificing the interests of the public cause, to prescribe political forms established for normal times of peace. Far from this, and owing to the iniquitous war made against the republic, we have to act solely inspired by sentiments of patriotism, the only hope left to the nation in the fearful ordeal she has now to undergo.

Nevertheless, if there are any doubts, any distrust as to the legality of the acts of the first magistrate of the nation, these ought to disappear before the explicit and unanimous manifestation of the people; and the people, free from any compulsion, have proclaimed his permanency in power until the causes which gave occasion to the decree thus sanctioned have ceased to exist, for they respect more the substance than the form, more the spirit than the letter of our institutions.

You, Chiapanecos, in the midst of the stormy crisis we have traversed, you have been faithful to the cause of our independence and to the illustrious genius who has guided with firmness the destinies of the magnanimous people which will elevate him for his virtues to the highest power, giving thus the best and most unmistakable proof of their fidelity and good sense, for the good of the country—for your own good. Follow, then, that path of honor and glory, and your conduct will always find imitators, and your acts will make a brilliant page in the history of the present war.

Chiapanecos, an admirer of your noble conduct in the bitter days of misfortune and trial of our beloved country, I shall always regard that conduct as a model of virtue—a sublime example worthy of imitation. Live, then, for your country. Let her triumph be the object of your constant efforts and sacrifices. Thus you will fulfil the duties which God has imposed upon you, and thus you will leave to your children a free country worthy of being inherited.

JOSÉ PANTALEON DOMINGUEZ.

TUXTLA GUTIERRES, *April* 12, 1866.

With simplicity have the documents here printed been written, but with sincerity also. The frank and spontaneous expression of a people who sanction with their will the decree of November 8 is registered in them, asking the permanency of the illustrious citizen Don Benito Juarez in the presidency of the republic for the whole time during the critical situation brought about by the foreign war.

The people of Chiapas have pledged themselves to die defending the flag of the country carried aloft by the firm hand of the President. They will keep to their pledge in spite of all the obstacles that the enemy may oppose, in spite of the miserable ambition of some bad Mexicans, because the people of Chiapas love with faith, with enthusiasm.

Liberty and independence!

No. 111.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 9, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 1st instant, containing various acts passed in the State of Chiapas, in the Mexican republic, recognizing the legality and expediency of the decrees issued

on the 8th of last November, by the government of Mexico, in one of which the duration of the term of office of the President of that republic was extended until a public election could take place.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 112.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, November 21, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, the documents in the annexed index, some of which, taken from the official paper of the Mexican government, show the adhesion of several States of the republic to the decree of the 8th of November, 1865, declaring the continuance of the presidential term till a new election can take place. I think proper to call your attention, in a special manner, to letters addressed to me on that subject by Mr. Blas Bruzual and Mr. Domingo F. Sarmiento. One is, as you are aware, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Venezuela to this country, and the other is a minister of the same rank from the Argentine Republic, and accredited to this government.

Their letters you will find among the annexed documents.

These distinguished South American statesmen, of acknowledged enlightenment, who cannot be suspected of mean interests—for they have nothing to hope or fear from Mexico, or any other desire, than the success of the American cause at large—agree upon the convenience and necessity of extending the presidential term till a new election can take place.

I embrace this occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Index of documents sent by the Mexican legation in Washington to the Department of State of the United States, with the note of this date, in relation to the decrees of the 8th of November, 1865.

No.	Date.	Contents.
	1866.	
1	March 17	The governor of the State of Tabasco sends the minister of relations the act of adhesion of the city of San Juan Bautista to the decrees of the 8th of November, 1865.
2	March 4	Act to which the foregoing note refers.
3	July 9	Reply of the department of relations to the governor of Tabasco.
4	April 13	The consul of the republic in San Francisco, California, communicates to the department of relations a note from the governor of the State of Chiapas, reporting the adhesion of that government to the decrees of the 8th of November, 1865.
5	March 8	The governor of the State of Guerrero to the consul in San Francisco, California, asking him to forward the adhesion of that State to the decrees of the 8th November, 1865, to the general government.
	1865.	
6	May 31	Letter from Mr. Blas Bruzual, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Venezuela, accredited to the government of the United States, addressed to Mr. Romero, stating his opinion that the functionaries elected by the people in Mexico ought to continue in the discharge of their duties till a new election can take place.
	1866.	
7	Nov. 16	Letter from Mr. Domingo F. Sarmiento, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the Argentine republic, accredited to the government of the United States, addressed to Mr. Romero, expressing his opinion that the President of Mexico ought to continue the execution of his duties till a new election can take place.
8	Nov. 21	Mr. Romero's answer to the above letter.

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

WASHINGTON, *November* 21, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.—From the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, Chihuahua, July 20, 1866, No. 21.]

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT—THE CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY COMMANDANCY OF THE STATE OF TABASCO.

SAN JUAN BAUTISTA, *March* 17, 1866.

I have the honor to transmit to your department the original act expressing the opinion of the people of this capital in regard to the decree issued by the supreme magistrate of the republic on the 8th of last November. Have the kindness to make it known to the worthy magistrate who so successfully and constantly rules the destinies of the republic, and assure him that the sentiments of this government and of the people of Tabasco in general accord with his.

Accept, therefore, the sincere asseverations of my profound respect and esteem.

Independence and liberty!

G. MENDEZ.

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT
of the Republic, Paso del Norte.

[Enclosure No 2.]

An act drawn up in the city of San Juan Bautista, capital of the State of Tabasco, in support of the decrees of the 8th of November, 1865, prolonging the presidential term of citizen Benito Juarez.

In the city of San Juan Bautista, of Tabasco, on the fourth day of March, 1866, the people of the capital assembled at the summons of the civil governor and military commander of the State, to say if they accept or not the prolongation of the presidential term decreed at El Paso del Norte, on the 8th of November last, by citizen Benito Juarez, constitutional President of the United States of Mexico; and having proposed, in order to make the act regular, that a president and secretary be named, the citizen governor was elected by acclamation to the first place, and citizen Juan R. de la Rosa to the second.

The decree having been read, and all citizens present having manifested their will to be in favor of the continuation of the presidential functions of the citizen Benito Juarez, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

1. The people of the capital of the State of Tabasco support with all their will, and all their force, the decree issued on the 8th of November, 1865, by citizen Benito Juarez, prolonging the presidential term till the circumstances of the nation can enable a new election of some one to succeed him; and the people of Tabasco, in consequence, acknowledge no other legitimate authority than that now exercised by citizen Benito Juarez.

2. The same people of the capital of Tabasco give a vote of supreme confidence in citizen Benito Juarez for the abnegation and constancy with which he has defended the independence and autonomy of the nation.

And so this act concludes, and is signed by the present citizens, with me, the secretary, which I certify.

G. Mendez.
M. M. Moreno.
Cornelio Castillo.
Lawyer Mariano Pedreza.
Francisco de P. Aguilar.
Francisco Vidaña.
Justo F. Santa Anna.
Thomas Fellices.
Carlos Cebada.
P. P. Rosado.
J. M. de Codes.
Filomeno Lopez de Aguado.
Lawyer Rafael Oviedo.
S. G. Sanaraz.
P. A. Paillet.
Isidro Delgado.
Carlos Moguel.
M. Payan Ortiz.
Mateo Trinierete.
Felipe Gonzales.
J. M. Carrebino.
Manuel Perales.
F. Sosa Barbosa.
Antonio M. Hernandez.
Ignacio Mayo.
Tiburcio D. Vasquez.
Oliverio Figueroa.
Vicente Damas.
Victoriano Peres.
Juan Morales.
Juan de la C. Torres
Ventura Gallardo.
Ricardo Piña.
Trinidad de Sevilla.
Antonio Gonzales.
José M. Pergani.
Damaso Jesus.
Felipe Lazaro.
Felipe I. de Lopez.
Juan A. Prado.
Amado Morales.
J. Medrano.
Florentino Camacho.
Ponciano de la Torre.
Manuel Laray Marchena.
Tranquilino Perez.
Urbano Notario.
J. Eustachio Chapus.
José Jesus Garcia.
José de la Rosa Contreras.
Eligio Mendoza.
Nicolas Mendoza.
Manuel D. Olan.
Pedro Fuentes.
Saturno Geronimo.
Toribio Osorio.

Leon A. Torres.
Manuel M. Lombardini.
Marcelino Garza.
Prisciliano Jimenez.
Lawyer José M. Burelo.
Emeteris False.
Isidoro Alfaro.
Feliciano A. Cae.
J. Longino Diaz.
Anastasio Arjona.
Manuel G. Fuentes
M. Silenciario Rodriguez.
Timoteo Sanchez.
Estanislao Jimenez.
Joaquin Garcia.
A. Martinez Marini.
Nicolas Herrera Morales.
Manuel Mayo.
Felix A. Diaz.
Antonio Diaz.
Bernabe Canto.
Benigno Mondragon.
Francisco Jesus.
Gregorio Cupido.
Hilario Arias.
J. Sanlucas Perez.
Pablo Castaldi.
José M Garcia.
Vicente Jimenez.
Alejandro Loreto.
Tranquilino de la Rosa.
José Eugenio Garcia.
Nicolas Hernandez.
Hermenegildo Chaves.
S. Isaac Martinez.
Fernando Lozano.
Cenobio Jimenez.
Casiano Gomez.
José Brandespin.
And one hundred and sixty-three others.

JUAN DE LA ROSA, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 3.—Translation.]

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT—GOVERNMENT BRANCH—SECTION FIRST.

With your despatch of the 17th of March last you sent me the act drawn up in the capital of your State, manifesting the approbation given to the decree of the 8th of November last declaring the prolongation of the term of the President of the republic till the circumstances of the war will permit a new constitutional election. As expressed in the decree, it was issued because it was thought to conform to the spirit and provisions of the constitution, and to the will of the Mexican people. The citizen President justly appreciates the will of all the signers of the act, not only because it is spontaneous and the vote of free citizens, but because it is also the opinion of the government, as well as of the worthy sons of Tabasco, who have frequently given strong proofs of their patriotism in this war.

Independence and liberty ! Chihuahua, July 9, 1866.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

Citizen GREGORIO MENDEZ,
Governor of the State of Tabasco, at San Juan Bautista.

[Enclosure No. 4.—From the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, No. 18, Paso del Norte, May 31, 1866.]

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT,
CONSULATE OF MEXICO IN SAN FRANCISCO,
San Francisco, April 13, 1866.

J. Pantaleon Dominguez, the citizen governor of the State of Chiapas, writes me on the 15th of February as follows:

"Informed of the contents of your worthy despatch of the 15th of December last, and of the decrees issued by the supreme government of the republic relative

to the prolongation of the functions of the actual President, and to the responsibility assumed by citizen General Jesus G. Ortega, I this day order this circulation and publication in the State under my command, and that they be made known to the citizen governors of Tabasco and Vera Cruz, to whom I also send your despatch and a copy of the letter written to you by the first magistrate of the nation. In communicating this information to you, with due respect, I have the honor to reproduce to you the vows of my singular appreciation and consideration."

And I have the honor to transcribe it to you, that you may be so good as to place it in the knowledge of the supreme magistrate of the republic.

I protest to you the assurances of my esteem and consideration.

JOSÉ A. GODOY.

Citizen SEBASTIAN LERDO DE TEJADA,
Minister of Foreign Relations and Government, at Paso del Norte.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF GUERRERO.

With your despatch of the 15th of December last I have this day received two decrees issued by the citizen President of the republic, on the 8th of November of the same year; one of which declares the continuance of your functions till the condition of the war may permit a new constitutional election, and the other that there is cause of prosecution against General Jesus G. Ortega for remaining abroad without a permit from the supreme government, with the title of general, having resigned the place as president of the supreme court of justice; and also a circular issued at the same time, explaining the fundamental causes of the issue of said decrees, with the copy of a private letter from the citizen President recommending you to circulate the documents, and declaring his resolution to consecrate himself as ever to the defence of national independence, under all circumstances and in every emergency.

As the reasons that induced the supreme government to issue said decrees are explained in the documents, and as there is no doubt the union congress has authorized him to issue the decrees, I will merely say to you that this government and all the inhabitants of the State agree that you should continue in the presidency of the republic on the said terms, assuring you if it had been otherwise it would have caused great grief in the State, which sees the principles he defends personified, and a certain triumph of the republican cause in the well-deserving citizen who has displayed so much constant energy in the defence of the inalienable rights of the country.

I beg of you to make this known to the supreme government, and present my thanks for the patriotic resolutions, and accept for yourself my distinguished esteem and consideration.

Independence and liberty! La Providenza, March 8, 1866.

D. ALVAREZ.

JOSÉ A. GODOY,
Consul of the Republic in San Francisco, California.

[Enclosure No. 6.]

NEW YORK, *May* 31, 1866.

ESTEEMED SIR AND FRIEND: Before leaving Washington a few days ago, you asked my opinion about what should be done in case the constitutional elections cannot take place in Mexico, on account of the occupation of many of

the towns by the enemy that has invaded the republic. I will answer in a few words, for the question seems very plain to me.

The Mexican constitution, like all democratic constitutions, consists of two principal parts: one establishes the authority and manner of executing it, and the other the periodical renovation of national official functions. If the nation is prevented from effecting the latter by vis major, it is not excused from obeying the functionaries constitutionally elected to carry on the government; and those functionaries are not excused from their duties because the nation is prevented from complying with the precepts of the constitution for their succession.

For this reason I think the present functionaries of the republic ought to continue in office as long as the nation is disabled from relieving them, according to the dispositions of the fundamental law.

To think adversely would be believing in national dissolution, because an elective formula could not take place; it would be believing the constitution could aid the invader by displacing the functionaries called to represent it and defend it against exterior attack.

So far from thinking the present functionaries, chosen by popular election, ought to retire from their posts before the nation could relieve them, I think that natural law obliges them to continue in the discharge of their public duties, the continuation of which is prescribed by the supreme law of self-preservation.

I am of the opinion that the authority of the high functionaries chosen by popular election ought to consider their offices continued till the nation is in a condition to relieve them; and so the President of the United States of Mexico ought to declare by virtue of the power conferred upon him by the last national congress.

Thus I answer your question, and subscribe myself your obedient servant,

B. BRUZUAL.

Mr MATIAS ROMERO.

WASHINGTON, *November* 21, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 7.]

NEW YORK, *November* 16, 1866.

DEAR SIR: With the greatest diffidence, by means of this letter, I comply with your request to state in writing my opinion in regard to General Ortega's protest as president of the supreme court of justice against the decrees of Juarez prolonging his presidential term till a new election can take place. My want of confidence proceeds from the fact that most of our constitutions contain dispositions that have no precedents in those that have acquired an established jurisprudence by sanction of time, and I run a risk of venturing solutions to practical questions, that may be deemed foreign, because the case in question is so strange.

It is much to be desired, if Mexico recovers her usurped territory, to have her constitution remodelled after those that have been tested in various countries, so that in cases like the present there may be sources and authorities to give antecedents and principles to satisfy the public conscience.

The present condition of Mexico is a sad one! Just on the point of shaking off the foreign incubus, with two public powers differing in their understanding of an article of the constitution, in danger of falling into the flames of another civil war! Is it not to be feared that honest citizens may embrace one or the other party without reflection, or as they may interpret the constitution according to their personal interests, or for the renovation of public powers?

It is not the only country of Spanish America that is disputing about constitu-

tional rights, obscured by want of plain rules that have given rise to civil wars and deplorable revolutions.

For this reason it is very necessary to fix the constitutional dispositions in Mexico, by means of an explanation of its principles; and to this end I wish to contribute the following brief considerations:

All constitutions fix a limit to the extent of the dispositions that tend to insure the exercise of individual rights, and it is the preservation of the thing constituted the state, the nation. No disposition relating to a private interest, or right, can endanger the preservation of the whole; and, therefore, when it is decreed that the sessions of congress shall be public—for the people have the privilege to know the reasons for law—it is provided they may be secret whenever reasons of public convenience require it. It is the same with the first right of man, his personal liberty, which is guaranteed to him by the constitution whenever it is suspended without sufficient cause according to law; but it is provided that in cases of insurrection or invasion, when public security requires it, the person arrested shall not be informed of the cause of his arrest.

England and the United States acknowledge these limitations, and others too numerous to mention, to rights acquired by time at the cost of immense sacrifices. Public safety, now threatened in Mexico, must, therefore, be the test, as long as the present situation continues, to prove the intrinsic value of secondary dispositions. The periodical change of the executive prevents the establishment of a despotism from habit or force; but this precaution, laudable in peace times, in case of insurrection or invasion must be subordinate to the safety of the nation by means of force. As the part of the country that is free is under martial law, and the rest held by the enemy, the provisions for changing authorities are null, as they cannot be executed.

The constitution of Mexico disposes that the president of the judicial power shall execute the duties of the executive, in its default; and in this particular it differs from the other American republics, that confer the power upon the head of the legislature.

The spirit of that disposition is easy to understand; it intended to place power in the hands of an official who could have no interest in party questions, so that he could exercise no influence on the free vote of the people.

The existence of a president of the supreme court supposes a fixed residence in the capital, in discharge of his official duties. Would the constitution make a president of the court that had no court to preside over, or no fixed residence in the place where the court ought to meet? Is it a personal right granted to that functionary by the people, like that conferred upon the vice-president? No. The president of the supreme court of justice exercises his functions in a locality designated by the constitution. His name has nothing to do with the office; whereas, in case of the president and vice-president, the name is everything. From this simple and rational principle, we ask: Can there be a president of the supreme court of Mexico residing in New York, New Orleans, or anywhere in the United States? Can the supreme court emigrate and act outside his jurisdiction? Can a simple justice of the peace in Matamoras cross the Rio Grande, order arrests, and impose fines in the territory of the jurisdiction he has abandoned?

It is the duty of the president of the supreme court to be always found at his post, by the notary, who informs him of causes under his jurisdiction. If he is not found, and it is known that he has left the country, the fact must be made known, so as to show the place is vacant, for his functions cannot follow him out of his jurisdiction.

If there be a constitutional point solemnly recognized, it is certainly that the place is vacated when the functionary moves out of his jurisdiction. The right of governing England belongs to a family, and is hereditary by the laws of succession; and yet, when James the second left the country, going beyond the

limits of his kingdom, and not called out by duty, Parliament declared the throne vacant, and did not call his successor to fill it, because he was the heir of a deceased father, and not the heir of an absent person. If, then, a king ceases to be such by absenting himself from his country, can a judge, who has not officiated for years, and is living out of the country, continue to be judge?

I must here call attention to an observation I have previously made, namely, that the person called by the Mexican constitution to exercise in certain cases a kind of regency is the president of the judicial power, and not the legislative head, as in most other republics. That is to say, an employé whose duties are confined to the seat of government cannot be governor of a state, general in the army, a traveller abroad, or an ambassador, without resigning his judgeship, the business of which confines him daily to his duties. Perhaps you ask, but what has this constitutional disposition to do with General Ortega, who appears to have an office abroad? Now come the considerations that show the danger to the safety of the country of offices held out of it. The person is exposed to the influences of a foreign state, which he may use to the injury of his country, as is shown in the present case. General Ortega finds himself restricted in his pretensions by the policy of the United States, that favor Juarez. If we admit him to any legitimate right to the presidency, we must confess that the dignity of the republic has been tarnished by his imprisonment. If we take the opposite, and suppose him favored by the United States, we would have a President of Mexico under a foreign jurisdiction, and recognized by a strong neighbor giving him hospitality, and acting in the interests of a country that might not always be the interests of Mexico.

These considerations seem to me to be of great weight in solving the dispositions of the constitution.

It is not now proposed to hold an election, for it is impossible. No tyranny is to be put down; all that is to be done is to continue to resist foreign invasion; and to succeed in this, the person who began it must remain in office, and this course is dictated by common sense. "Don't swap horses in crossing the stream," said Mr. Lincoln, in accordance with popular opinion that re-elected him to the presidency, so as not to derange the machinery of war, which is the executive.

Taking advantage of the actual fact, General Ortega's high military qualities do not improve the present situation; to do that, it must be so expressed by election, or we must suppose that a chief justice is expected to possess military qualities. But the constitution does not make General Ortega regent; it appoints to that office whomsoever is president of the supreme court; and the only person who cannot be and ought not to be called to the presidency of the republic by the spirit of the constitution, while the country is struggling for independence against a foreign power, is the president of the supreme court of justice, who is supposed to be versed in the laws, to be just in his decisions, but not skilled in arms to defend with the sword his threatened country. Most likely Mexico is the only country in the world where a general is chief justice. If events should make it desirable to have military men as judges, the constitution would be violated, and its intention frustrated, for the judge was to be a man having no party prejudices; but here we have one, a general, watching every opportunity to get into the presidency.

President Juarez, now in exercise of the supreme power, carries on the war as President, which is not a theory of right, as is supposed, but a fixed fact that it would become necessary to destroy, and turn those arms that should be used against the common enemy against the governor of a State, the result of which would certainly be a deplorable civil war, and, possibly, the elevation of General Ortega to the presidency. The fact that the United States do not support the pretender's aspirations, and continue to acknowledge the government of President Juarez, is of no importance to the partisans of the liberal interpretation

of the constitution, but it is of great consequence to the people of Mexico, and for the success of the terrible war that is ending so gloriously.

First save the thing constituted—that is, the country, the nation, the republic—that is of the greatest importance.

Each day has its task. When the time comes for the election of a President of Mexico free and independent, then the venerable jurist who is fulfilling his daily duties as chief justice in the city of Mexico will be made regent during the interregnum of the country. It would be well for General Ortega to be at the head of victorious legions at that time, for I cannot think he is buried under the musty law tomes of his law library.

General Ortega, in the United States, is beyond reach of the case provided for in the constitution. Let a general have all the influence possible; let himbe the head of a political party; but he is not that president of the supreme court to whom the constitution proposes to trust the executive power during an interregnum.

History has shown the troubles of regencies in war times, and the people of Mexico would be very unforeseeing to put such obstacles in the way of the present executive, embarrassing his action, only to comply with a simple rite of the constitution that could not provide for emergencies of such a serious nature as now exist.

If there be yet doubt about the power of the executive to continue his functions during a congressional recess, or during the absence or resignation of the president of the judicial power, it is settled by the permanent nature of the office. Our constitution compels the annual meeting of the legislature. In some of the United States their sessions are biennial, and the English Parliament did not order to be convoked regularly, at least once every five years, but in the reign of James the Second. The executive power has other rules. In monarchies a successor is legally named for every emergency, and a regent is appointed by law. "The king never dies," *(mort le roy—vive le roy,)* is the traditional formula to show that executive action never ceases for a moment. Republics provide for possible emergencies by naming a vice-president, or, in default of him, presidents of the senate, or persons designated by other constitutions, succeed to the presidency.

In the present case, where there is no death, resignation, or inability of the incumbent, and when no election can take place, no real interest of society requires a change of administration that might weaken the mere military power of the executive. On the other hand, all precepts of the constitution for ordinary cases ought to rest in abeyance, so as not to endanger the safety of the nation, which is of the most importance.

I will conclude by calling your attention to the pernicious effects of those differences from the practices of all other nations. That precept of the constitution that calls the president of the supreme court to succeed the chief executive has not done the good that was expected; for, instead of an impartial judge, we find in the place a general with titles, antecedents, and political designs; and that certainly was not intended by the constitution. My opinion is, the best thing that can be done to provide for future events will be to suppress the *interrex*, and create a vice-president.

With my wishes for the prosperity of Mexico and your own happiness, I remain, with sentiments of particular esteem, your very obedient servant and friend,

D. F. SARMIENTO.

Mr. MATIAS ROMERO,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary of Mexico, in Washington.

WASHINGTON, *November*, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 8.]

WASHINGTON, *November* 21, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I had the honor to-day to receive your acceptable letter of the 16th instant, in which you express in writing, agreeably to my request, the opinion you gave me verbally in your visit to me on the 12th, in regard to the expediency and legality of the decrees issued by the President of the Mexican republic, on the 8th of November, 1865, prolonging his presidential term till a new election can take place.

As your opinion is that of a distinguished South American statesman of acknowledged information and sound sense, who can have no low interest, or any other reason but the success of the American cause in general, it cannot fail to have a good effect upon persons outside of Mexico not acquainted with the subject, and will remove some doubts concerning the pretended rights of General Ortega to the presidency of the Mexican republic. I say on persons outside of Mexico, because inside of the republic the opinion is unanimously in favor of the expediency and necessity of those decrees and considers the conduct of General Ortega as unpatriotic and seditious. It is a fact that no authorized voice in Mexico has been raised against the decrees, and it is now more than a year since they were issued. No military chieftain has regarded them as unconstitutional; only a few discontented fugitives from the country in time of foreign war, and residing in the United States, support General Ortega's pretensions.

I send a copy of your letter this day to my government, and also to the State Department of the United States of America.

I remain, sir, your most obsequious friend and obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

DON DOMINGO F. SARMIENTO,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Argentine Republic, New York.

WASHINGTON, *November* 21, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 113.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 28, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 16th instant, containing a number of the official paper of the Mexican government of the 22d of last October, in which is given some correspondence which passed between you and Señor Lerdo de Tejada, in regard to Señor Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 7.

CONCERNING DE SANTA ANNA.

List of papers.

114. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with two enclosures).....May 26, 1866.
115. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....July 6, 1866.
116. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with eleven enclosures).....Aug. 12, 1866.
117. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Aug. 20, 1866.
118. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with sixteen enclosures) ....Sept. 29, 1866.
119. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....Oct. 9, 1866.
120. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with two enclosures).....Nov. 16, 1866.
121. Señor de Santa Anna to Mr. Seward.....Dec. 12, 1865.
122. Same to same.....May 21, 1866.
123. Señor Mazuera to Mr. F. W. Seward.....May 26, 1866.
124. Señor de Santa Anna to Mr. Seward.....June 26, 1866.
125. Same to same.....Aug. 10, 1866.
126. Mr. Seward to Señor de Santa Anna.....Aug. 16, 1866.
127. Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, jr., to Mr. Seward...Nov. 7, 1866.
128. Mr. Seward to Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, jr....Nov. 8, 1866.
129. Mr. Seward to Mr. Courtney.....Nov. 8, 1866.
130. Mr. Courtney to Mr. Seward.....Nov. 14, 1866.
131. Mr. Seward to Señor de Santa Anna.....Dec. 8, 1866.

No. 114.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.—Unofficial.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, May 26, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: In conformity with the promise I made in my interview with you in the State Department this morning, I have the honor to enclose the copy of a communication addressed to me, on the 21st instant, from Elizabethport, by Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, in which he offers his services to the Mexican government, and my answer to it yesterday, informing that I was not authorized to consider the proposal, but would submit it to my government.

Your respectful and obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

(For enclosures see enclosures Nos. 5 and 7 in document No. 116.)

No. 115.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 6, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 26th of May, containing copy of a letter addressed to you by Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, and your reply thereto, and to thank you for the information.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 116.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, August 12, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: Continuing my communications to the government of the United States, of the chief occurrences in the Mexican republic at this critical period of its political existence. I send you to-day the enclosed indexed documents relating to Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's offer of his services to the Mexican government, and the determination of my government not to accept them, as of no interest to the cause, and for other reasons given at large in Mr. Lerdo de Tejada's note, of which I enclose a copy, (No. 8,) and to which I alluded in my interview with you at the Department of State on Thursday last, the 9th instant.

I embrace the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Index of documents sent by the Mexican legation in Washington to the Department of State of the United States, with the note of this date, in relation to Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's offer of services to the Mexican government.

No.	Date.	Contents.
	1866.	
1	May 15	Protest of the New York Mexican Club against Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.
2	June 5	Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's manifest to the Mexican people, dated at Elizabethport, New Jersey.
3	June 20	Reply of the New York Mexican Club to the manifest.
4	May 24	Mr. Romero sends a copy of Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's offer of services to Mr. Lerdo de Tejada.
5	May 21	Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna makes a formal offer of his services for the Mexican government to Mr. Romero.
6	May 25	Mr. Romero sends Mr. Lerdo de Tejada a copy of his reply to Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.
7	May 25	Mr. Romero informs Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna that his offer will be sent to the government of the republic, as he is not authorized to decide upon it.
8	July 6	Mr. Lerdo de Tejada informs Mr. Romero that the government of Mexico cannot accept the services of Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.
9	Aug. 6	Mr. Romero informs Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna of that determination.
10	July 12	Decree of the usurper Maximilian ordering the sequestration of Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's property in Mexico.

F. D. MACIN,
Second Secretary of the Legation.

WASHINGTON, *August* 12, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

Protest of the Mexican Club of New York against D. Antonio L. de Santa Anna.

NEW YORK, *May* 15, 1866.

Whereas, on account of the arrival of Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna in the United States, rumors have prevailed that he will attempt to interfere again in the affairs of the Mexican republic, which he has oppressed, impoverished, and betrayed, the Mexican Club of New York, whose members are republicans, attached to the independence of their country; considering that the aforesaid Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna has been the most obnoxious man to Mexico, the source of her evils and calamities, the promoter of disorder and anarchy, the violator of every law, the destroyer of freedom, the oppressor of the people, the corrupter of society; considering that to all these titles, which render him odious and which created against his tyranny the most popular revolution recorded in the annals of Mexico, he adds that of traitor to his country; for, in 1854, while holding the dictatorship he usurped, he committed his greatest offence in the betrayal of his country by empowering Don José Gutierrez Estrada to ask in his behalf from the European nations the establishment of a monarchy in Mexico; considering that as soon as this crime was accomplished by the aid of French intervention, Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, rejoicing over the foul deed he had originated, made haste to tender his fealty to the Archduke Maximilian of Austria, recognizing him as the emperor of Mexico; and, finally, considering that if he afterward issued manifestoes against the empire, they do not obliterate the crime which he perpetrated, and are but an evidence of his being consistent only in his inconsistency, and of his having not received from the invaders the reward he expected from his treason;

They do hereby declare and protest:

1st. That they see in Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna the most odious tyrant, who betrayed the cause of native independence, and abused the public power.

2d. That they believe that his name alone would be sufficient to stain the noble cause which the Mexican people are struggling to maintain, and to endanger the consolidation of liberal institutions, and make certain the impunity of every traitor; that the Mexican people cannot trust the word of the man who has ever abused them, and that were they to see him in the national territory they would claim that, in satisfaction to law and justice, he should be submitted to trial, and receive exemplary punishment, as guilty of high treason.

The Mexican Club resolves that the foregoing declarations be published, to prevent public opinion from being misguided, and the candor of the men who sympathize with the cause of Mexico from being abused; and they entertain the warmest conviction that the republicans of Mexico shall never concur in the irreparable error of dishonoring their ranks by admitting among them the man who was always the foe of freedom, and who, abusing all honor, begged for Mexico the shameful foreign yoke she now wears.

FRANCISCO ZARCO, *President.*

Juan J. Baz,
Francisco Ibarra,
Pantaleon Tovar,
Jesus Fuentes Muniz,
Francisco Elorriaga,
Santiago Vicario,
Juan N. Navarro,
Felipe B. Berriozabal,
Jesus G. Ortega,
Jacobo Rivera,
José Rivera y Rio,
Pedro de Baranda,
Juan A. Zambrano,
Juan M. Zambrano,
Rafael de Zayas,
M. Gamboa Pritchard,
Eulalio Degollado, jr.,
Fernando Maria Ortega,
Juan Urbina,
Francisco Paz,

Epitacio Huerta,
Luis Legorreta,
Rafael Huerta,
Pablo Rocha y Portu,
Gaspar Sanchez Ochoa, *general of the republican army of Mexico.*
Joaquin Villalobos,
Francisco G. Morales,
Joaquin G. Ortega,
Manuel Quesada,
Pedro Santacilia,
Francisco Gonzalez Rodriguez,
Andres Bravo,
José Montesinos,
Guadalupe Garcia,
Juan Keats,
Francisco Venegas,
Andres Treviño,
José Maria J. Carvajal,
Antonio L. Carvajal,
Juan Moreno,
Juan Galindo,
José Maria Carvajal, jr.,
José M. Boves,
Frederico G. Fitch.

CIPRIANO ROBERT, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.

General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna to the Mexican people.

From time to time nations are tried by Heaven in order to teach them that they should walk in the paths of reason, and to awaken in them noble sentiments of justice and of duty. The city of Numa reached the highest point in the scale of human greatness while right remained her guiding star, virtue her counsel, and union the shield and strength of her sons; but later, when those saving principles had become forgotten, the mistress of the universe became a slave, and was forced to learn the language of Attila and Alaric, in order to execute the orders of her masters. Such is the destiny of those nations that abuse the gifts and advantages with which Providence favors them. History is full of great but sorrowful examples of this fact. A sad fate has fallen upon our beloved country. The silence inspired by tyranny and the despondency of our fellow-citizens have succeeded the joyous festivals of liberty. The most energetic and expressive words lack strength and meaning to depict the desolation of our fields and the mourning that fills our cities. Yet we will not despair. Mexico has within herself powerful elements to enable her to triumph over the evil and to even blot out her past record of misfortune. The heroic resistance of our compatriots confirms this hope, and we should not forget that "a people fighting for liberty and independence is invincible."

On casting a glance over the blood-stained plains of Mexico, it is a consoling thought that all our misfortunes have been useful for the present and fruitful in lessons for the future. Those misfortunes have developed and strengthened the national sentiment; and from the midst of the nation's ruins we have begun to build up a new and a moral country, under the impulse of our common participation in misfortune. There were Mexicans, it is true, but no nation. Now all our domestic hatreds have been concentrated into one common cry of vengeance on the invaders of the sacred soil left to us by our fathers. Yes, the nation does exist in the hearts of Mexicans, and great are the lessons which we have gathered from the field of error and experience to guide us in forming the rule of our future conduct. Though having followed different routes, we meet to-day at the same point, tired, it is true, but not overcome by our constant fighting. Let us embrace one another at this critical moment of our existence; let us work in concert for our common cause, as we did in those glorious days when we broke to pieces the chains of the conquest; let the nation rise as one man, and the sceptre as well as the crown of Maximilian will fall and be buried in the depths of the seas. Our riches and prosperity in days gone by were the cause why our civic virtues, undermined by luxury and indolence, were disappearing

from day to day; but adversity and poverty commenced to develop again in the nation those same virtues which are the strength and the glory of every people. Let us learn in the great school of misfortune to give their full value to those precious gifts of liberty and peace. Let every Mexican become a soldier of the republic, and after the victory has been won and the clash of arms has ceased, he will be a good citizen, skilled in defending the conquests made by his patriotism and having an interest in their preservation.

Although it is contrary to my character, and notwithstanding my natural repugnance to speak of myself, it is incumbent upon me to do so on this occasion. Never, not even for a moment, have I ceased to be a Mexican, whatever may have been, at different times, my opinions regarding the system of government suitable to my country. Nor can I with justice be accused of self-will or egotism, for the motive of my action has always been the happiness and prosperity of my native country. Providence has chosen that my history should be that of Mexico since 1821, when I figured as one of the leaders in the struggle for independence, and that heroic country should inscribe her name, with my aid, on the map of nations. I first proclaimed there the republic, on the 2d of December, 1822, announcing a hitherto unknown divinity, as the Apostle did on the Areopagus; and so little prepared were the people for understanding and worshipping it worthily, that at various times the doubt assailed me whether I had accomplished my work. In the plan according to which a Mexican nationality was first organized our independence had been brought about in connection with the idea of constitutional monarchy. This was, at that time, the faithful expression of a very general desire in Mexico of an aspiration that was not foreign to honorable motives. Besides, in the other sections of Spanish-America the cry for independence has arisen, protesting against the intruding government of Napoleon I, and swearing fealty to Ferdinand VII, son of the dethroned monarch. It is well known that the bad policy of the sovereign turned that sentiment into one in favor of complete emancipation, and that the genius of leaders like Bolivar and San Martin did the rest. Many distinguished and patriotic Americans had their thoughts bent upon monarchy at the time of organizing the new governments; and some of the ministers sent to Europe carried with them instructions to negotiate on that basis. The idea of a republic, however, prevailed, and Spanish America was divided and organized under that form, and the flag which covered her indomitable legions in a hundred battles was tricolored.

This is not the proper place to speak of the armed European intervention, nor does it belong to me to speak now of that diplomatic combination, much less to write its history. Withal, it is necessary to state that the tripartite intervention, as it was presented to us, differed totally from the manner in which it has been understood and carried out by a single one of the conflicting parties. The intervention of three nations, each one powerful enough of itself to carry out any definite resolution regarding Mexico, could not be considered as a combination to usurp our rights, since its co-operation was generally regarded as a neutral element, and as a means afforded to the Mexicans for putting aside partisan excesses so that they might be able to discuss, to reason, and come to an understanding as to the most adequate and convenient manner of constituting their form of government for the maintenance of their nationality, independence, and autonomy. But the original plan of the intervention having been broken up by France, in taking upon herself alone the initiative in the matter, there came a total change over what had appeared to be the means of arriving at a settlement; and, from appearing as a mediator, the foreigner changed himself into the arbiter of our destinies. It was necessary at all hazards to visit the theatre of events in order to investigate the proceedings and attempts being made by the new interventionists. With this conviction, and following the suggestions of old friends, I resolved to go to Vera Cruz. What took place on my arrival

is known to all. General Bazaine rudely drove me from the Mexican territory, and I was obliged to re-embark shortly after my arrival. I bear no resentment on this account. I am rather glad that the outrage was committed, because it may have saved me from making certain compromises which circumstances might have imposed upon me, and because it opened my eyes regarding the intentions of the interventionists. Having been absent from Mexico since 1855, other agents took upon themselves to represent and direct public opinion, entirely free from my influence. It was others who were the guides of the allied invasion, who negotiated with the archduke, and who finally escorted him to the capital. My antagonists say that I went thither in search of an elevated position near the archduke. The truth is that I went thither in order to look after the interests and liberties of my compatriots, and not to separate myself from the real interests of the people.

To what greater glory could I aspire? What more could he have given me who was styled emperor? Open the history of Mexico, and it will be seen that all my ambition has been satisfied. Nothing could be of greater value in my eyes than the sash of general of division and the title of "well deserving of his country," with which, in 1829, on the banks of the Panuco, the people's gratitude rewarded my patriotic efforts in achieving the national independence. For no other honor have I more regard than for the wounds with which I am covered—memorials of our glorious struggles against powerful nations.

I have thus in no manner compromised myself with the empire. I belong entirely to the republic, and, in presence of the danger that menaces our country, the names of all parties disappear from my sight. I am not a conservative, nor am I a liberal. I am a Mexican.

It becomes me now to set forth the conduct which I have followed in my last administration, and that which has governed me since. In February, 1853, while I was living in a city of New Granada, I was called by my compatriots to exercise discretionary powers—a measure believed to be salutary in the midst of the nation's conflicts, divided as she was by hatreds and under the rule of anarchy. I was obliged not to hesitate. Duty, patriotism, dictated my resolution. I flew at the call of my fellow-citizens, and in April of that year I assumed charge of the supreme direction of affairs. The power of dictator is a tremendous one, but I accepted it with the consciousness of doing good, and with the determination to use prudently so formidable a trust. I felt in my heart enough patriotism not to go beyond the wishes of my fellow-citizens, sufficient love of glory not to render myself unworthy of its favors, and a profound respect for posterity not to render myself unworthy of its applause. Fortified with these convictions, I undertook the struggle against the obstacles which the genius of discord was heaping up on the road to peace, to order, and to the progress of the nation. Two years and four months did I bestow upon that task, with a vigorous energy and an unshakable resolution. Confidence on all sides was awakened, trade flourished, the arts sprung up, and the domestic as well as the foreign credit of the republic was re-established, as it were, by magic. I have the approval of my conscience; it tells me that I have done my duty. Supported by the whole nation, the acts of my administration were received with respect; sustained by a splendid army, full of courage, disciplined, and addicted to my person, and having in my hands the destinies of the people and army, which they had placed there themselves, what better chance could there be to revive in my favor the plan of Iguala? But, say what my adversaries will, I am a stranger to the ambition of vulgar souls; sentiments more elevated find a home in my soul, as well as higher aspirations. In order to have worn the imperial diadem, it would have sufficed for me to have stretched forth my hand; but never has the royal purple dazzled my eyes; and if at any time I could have dreamed of it, the bloody picture of Yturbide would have aroused me in time to fly from the seductive and treacherous delusion.

Generals and even governors of departments awaited only my acquiescence in order to proclaim me emperor on my birthday; but, faithful to my principles, I was obliged to use even threats in order to silence the proposals of those who thought it a personal honor to me and an advantage to the nation that I should wear the crown. In the midst of intestine convulsions minds were blinded by the extreme exaggerations of party, and despairing of being able to constitute ourselves in any stable manner under a republican system, persons were not wanting to blame me publicly as the prompter or the originator of the interpretation that was given to the plan of Iguala, after Yturbide's failure. A few years afterwards, in Mexico, as well as in other sections of Spanish America, a feeling of disappointment sprang up on witnessing the sad results produced by the trial given to our new institutions; and many men of well-disposed and of strict principles became disabused to such an extent that Generals Bustamente, Bravo, and Paredes, among us, and the illustrious San Martin, in South America, believed it to be their patriotic duty to advocate the establishment of a monarchy. There had been, on other occasions, attempts made to call a constituent assembly, in order to submit this retrograde step to its decision. Many worthy persons, during my last administration, wished to revive the same idea, and for this reason Señor Gutierrez de Estrada was authorized to have an understanding with the different courts of Europe, and to inquire what were the ideas of foreign sovereigns on the subject before such a project should be undertaken. But the war, which at that time absorbed the attention of Europe, prevented said mission from having any result; hence the project was for the time abandoned.

From this exposition it follows that the document which has been presented as overwhelming and conclusive against me is, on the contrary, a source of satisfaction to me, as it shows forth an act of disinterestedness and self-denial on my part. As if to give greater force in my detriment to the publication alluded to, there have been likewise printed, with some alterations, certain letters, which have been confided to the discretion of friends for circulation. I will not undertake to call such conduct by its proper name, but I may be allowed to ask whether, by any chance, the ideas contained in said letters brought the intervention to Mexico and seated Maximilian upon his throne? How can my supposed complicity in such acts be explained when contrasted with the action of the French authorities in driving me from Vera Cruz, after having forcibly made me sign a paper recognizing events that had already taken place? In what document of that time, public or private, did my name appear as an accomplice of the intervention? What favors have I received from the archduke? His silence gave full sanction to the violence used against my person. My adversaries admit that they have failed to bring the matter home to me, and that their deductions, with regard to the letters in question, are not as tenable as has been maintained.

On the other hand, is it just to make me alone responsible for an idea which, in addition to the examples already cited, has occupied the attention of other thinking and patriotic men, who, while they erred in judgment, did not do so knowingly, but in perfect good faith? Bolivar, who indignantly spurned San Martin's views, became subsequently the advocate of the form of a republic called Bolivian, which has been denominated monarchical by a number of liberals; and yet three or four years later many eminent Colombians favored the establishment of a constitutional monarchy in South America, and made certain diplomatic moves in the premises for the purpose of causing the new states to be ruled by European princes. Iturbide, the liberator, was less disinterested, as he derived personal advantages by his own interpretation of the sentiments upon which the Iguala plan was based. That error cost him his life; but his countrymen speedily discovered, after his death, the great services rendered by him to the nation, and how patriotic and generous were his imperial projects.

I refer to these facts as the most convincing record in the annals of Spanish America, and, I ask, may I not also have erred in good faith, as well as so many other men of sound principles and recognized ability? Wherein is it criminal or unpardonable that I should have despaired, as many others have done, of our republic, and allowed a trial of a constitutional monarchy, established without my co-operation, and when the sceptre was not to be held by me?

A bandage covered the eyes of our people and my own. We have jointly erred and suffered, and we have now warning and experience. I am not egotistic, and I desire to take part in repairing our error.

Where is the Mexican who can refuse my services without incurring the opprobrium of history, or deny me the right to fight, and die, if necessary, in the defence of our desolate hearths? If it is desired to achieve a solid and enduring peace, is it just or right to turn the back upon an old soldier of the nation, who only asks his countrymen for a spot of ground where he can stand and fight against the usurpers of our rights? Who is there that has sufficient authority to say to me, "Stand back! you are a Mexican, but you cannot be allowed to draw your sword, as of yore, in defence of the country which gave you birth, and of the republic which you yourself founded?" Upon what principle, whether liberal or conservative, could such injustice be upheld? In the great struggle of our country no element, however insignificant it may appear, that can be used to the advantage of a nation, can be considered useless. Further, I perceive, in view of the facts already stated, and of the events that have taken place in our country during the last five years, that the general tendency of the people is in favor of a republic, and that monarchy is an impossibility in Mexico. In Spanish America the throne is the forerunner of the scaffold. Party sentiment must not be made the criterion of the course of contemporary actors. It rests with history to give an impartial version, and I am certain that history will do me justice.

Stand together, my countrymen! Let us consign all such recriminations to oblivion, for they are detrimental to our country. I have given an explanation of my public acts, and in like manner I am ready to give any guarantees for my sincerity that may be required. Do not forget that domestic dissension, when the soil of our country is being profaned by foreign invaders, is equivalent to desertion in the face of the enemy; and that, although there is no military law whereby it can be punished, yet we must pass through the ordeal of an inflexible and avenging posterity, which will reward only self-denial, patriotism, and true magnanimity.

Juarez is a good patriot, and Ortega is a worthy son of Mexico. Why are they not united? Why augment, through their disunion, the afflictions of our fellow-citizens? I hope yet to see them friends. It is not for me to say who has a right to the presidency, nor on whose side is the law; my object is to avenge the affront offered to our country by driving far from her midst the implacable tyrants that oppress her. Let all dissensions among our compatriots cease, and let all hatred be reserved for the foreign domination that covers us now with ignominy and shame. Juarez and Ortega should put an end to their resentments by a cordial embrace. Long and strenuously have the defenders of the republic struggled in Mexico; and, notwithstanding such great heroism, so firm a constancy, and so much sacrifice, the work is to-day no further advanced than it was in the beginning.

By reason of my antecedents, of my position in the conservative party, and even of my long absence from the country, I believe myself to be the one called upon to reconcile all minds, setting the example of submission to the constitutional government, as I now sincerely do. Thus I perform a patriotic duty, I obey the impulses of my own heart, and I satisfy the desires of hundreds of Mexicans who have called me to action. It will not surprise me to find my con-

duct misconstrued and base intentions attributed to me, inspired by egotism. I expect that already; I am prepared for all. But I shall nevertheless feel for my country at the sight presented by some of my fellow-citizens rejecting all association with me in these solemn moments of our country's life. I shall have fears lest our past experience and the warnings which we have received prove of no avail in producing union. Those who so oppose me will have given an eloquent explanation of our past misfortunes; but let them take note that I will never cowardly abandon the cause of the republic. Should my hopes be frustrated by unexpected events, or through the influence of bad passions, I shall have fulfilled my duty at all events, and the world can judge whether others have done theirs more faithfully than I have. My heart is young enough and my arm is strong enough to take part in the glorious struggle which is destined to achieve the second independence of Mexico. I feel that this is in accordance with my antecedents, my position, my years, and the glory which I desire for my name. I do not wish to give up the sole ambition that impels and rules me—namely, to drive our oppressors beyond the ocean, to re-establish the republic, and then withdraw to private life once more. No throne on earth could tempt me from that retirement, and I solemnly declare that on the day of victory I will demand no other reward.

Let us advance and unite the standards of our country which have been torn by the hands of the usurpers. Let us set again on its sacred pedestal the statue of liberty, thrown down by the invaders. Let us give no rest to the tyrant who oppresses us. He has changed our vast plains into frightful deserts, where the bones of our brethren, immolated on the altar of duty or victims to the hired assassins of an empire, lie bleaching. He ruins the nation's exchequer and makes monetary contracts abroad that are unwarrantable, believing that it will be easy for him to throw their weight upon the shoulders of our martyred people. The Austrian prince has spread a veil of mourning over the glory of our annals, and in place of the prosperity which he promised, he has loaded us with misfortunes, and has covered us with contempt and ignominy. Thousands of widows and orphans cry out for vengeance. Let us avenge them, compatriots! Union and fraternity be among us until we accomplish this!

It is now time, Mexicans, to forget forever our past contentions, and to make a strenuous effort, at once terrible and simultaneous, against our enemy. The tremendous onslaughts of our indomitable soldiers will bring the reveille of liberty, joy to the hearts of mothers, and rejoicing to our country. Heaven grant that the contentment which I foreshadow be not disturbed by new fratricidal dissensions! Union shall be my watchword before the fight! Union, again, after our victory.

God alone is infallible, and it would be monstrous presumption on my part were I to set myself up as free from error during my long public career; but, with my hand on my heart, I can say that never has my will been an accomplice in my faults, but rather in impotence of human nature to accomplish good in the absolute.

Trust to the sincerity of my words and intentions. I cannot, I should not, nor will I, close the book of my life with a falsehood. I only seek for my tomb a new laurel tree, whose shadow shall cover it in the midst of peace.

Let us hasten the hour of our national triumph. Confide in my words, and be ready.

Down with the empire! Long live the republic!

A. L. DE SANTA ANNA.

ELIZABETHPORT, NEW JERSEY, *June 5*, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

MEXICAN CLUB IN NEW YORK,
New York, June 20, 1866.

The manifesto issued by Señor Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna at Elizabethport, on the 5th instant, suggests many and various reflections to any one acquainted with the history of Mexico. As soon as we knew that Señor Santa Anna was desirous to intrude himself again into our political affairs, we published a protest against his pretensions. It will, then, astonish no one if we present now some of the main reflections occurring to us on reading this last address.

Señor Santa Anna begins by laying down certain general maxims of historic morals, which, if they can be applied in any manner to our country, involve ideas absolutely erroneous. He speaks of the punishments that Heaven sends upon people *who abuse the gifts and advantages that Providence bestows upon them*, and then applies them to our country in these words:

"Our riches and prosperity in days gone by were the cause why our civic virtue, undermined by luxury and indolence, were disappearing from day to day." (See *Manifest*, p. 4.)

We regret that Santa Anna, who has played such a prominent part in the history of Mexico for so many years, should make an assertion so ridiculous to men of sense, though it has been very often repeated. We have never been rich, happy, and lazy. Though our country has many elements of wealth, chiefly mineral, they have not been developed, nor can they be, from natural causes and for social reasons entirely foreign to the will of the Mexican people.

The natural features of our country, its numerous and immense mountains, its want of navigable rivers, and even of spring-water in many parts, are natural disadvantages that have retarded the progress of civilization, impeding moral and material progress, and easy modes of communication.

The lamentable condition in which we were left by the ignorance of our conquerors, the ideas of intolerance and fanaticism we inherited from them, have been some of the obstacles to the prosperity of Mexico, and, in general, of all the Spanish American countries.

For these causes, entirely independent of our will, we have been poor and miserable, and hence the revolutions that have troubled us; it was not the supposed abuse of gifts and advantages, so lightly spoken of by some. Mexico can be, and will be, rich and happy; but it has not yet become so, because, in the order of nature, it is impossible for a new-born infant to have the strength of a giant.

Is not the four years' brave resistance of the people against their invaders a proof to Santa Anna that the civic virtues of the people have increased, and not diminished?

But you should not be surprised, continues Santa Anna, that the great men of Mexico and South America should have similar ideas; *mine was a project never realized.*

If crimes are to be excused because notable men have committed them, courts of justice had as well be shut, and the word moral blotted from the dictionary.

Traitors have lived in every nation, and, without going back to remote times, Santa Anna may look at the late President of Santo Domingo as a notorious example.

In regard to the failure of his project, Santa Anna takes care to tell us that it was not through him it failed, "*but on account of the war that then absorbed the attention of Europe*" (See page 10 of the *Manifest.*)

We will here mention his reason for recognizing the Maximilian intervention at Vera Cruz, in another manifest published at St. Thomas, the 8th of July, 1865, after General Bazaine's rude treatment made him suddenly change from monarchist to republican.

"*I must explain,*" said Santa Anna to the Mexicans. "The newspapers of the capital published my recognition of French intervention. That act was not of my free will; it was forced upon me by circumstances."

"*The steamer in which I came had hardly cast anchor in the port, when the French commander of Vera Cruz came on board and informed me that I could not land till I signed a conditional paper. If I did not sign I was to go back on the same steamer. The conditions were that I recognized the intervention and the monarch elect, and I should address no manifest to the Mexican people. This insolence excited my indignation; but a long voyage made my wife very sick, and the advice of friends who came on board to see me persuaded me to sign the condition*"

In Santa Anna's reply to General Bazaine at Vera Cruz, on the 12th of May, 1864, he says, *as he did not understand French*, when he signed the paper, he thought he was only required *to recognize intervention and Maximilian*, but not to remain mute. Both these documents say that Santa Anna recognized the emperor Maximilian and French intervention; but the explanation is not very satisfactory.

In 1864 he told General Bazaine he did not know what he was signing, because the writing was in French; and in 1865 he said the proposals of the commander of Vera Cruz had caused him great *indignation;* and this is a certain proof he knew what he was signing.

When General Santa Anna speaks of himself, he does not wish to be accused of inconsistency. Perhaps not; but whoever looks at any of the periods of his life cannot but confess that he changes his opinions with considerable facility. He was a warm republican in 1822,—lukewarm and discouraged after a little while; he was a monarchist from 1853 to 1864, at least; and again he is a decided republican and a partisan of constitutional liberty in 1866. If we add to this the time in which he was partisan and defender, as a military man, of the Spanish domination, we shall see that the charge of inconsistency, which he thinks very hard, is justly deserved, and he cannot deny that we have a reason to call him changeable.

One of the proofs of levity given by General Santa Anna is to have believed and said that one of the objects of the tripartite intervention was to secure the happiness of Mexico. Any one having the slightest acquaintance with history and with the human heart would have known that natives are not in the habit of shedding their blood and expending their treasures disinterestedly, and for the simple pleasure of doing good. Still further, all sensible men, all independent newspapers of every country, pointed out with the greatest clearness the true object of the three Powers in interfering in the business of Mexico—the destruction of republican institutions during the civil war which reddened the territory of the United States. Every one said—and among them General Prim, whose official opinion cannot be doubted—that the Mexican republic was to be destroyed and a monarchy substituted in its place, and that the Archduke Maximilian of Austria was to be at the head of that monarchy. On the 30th of November, 1864, the same Señor Santa Anna wrote from San Thomas to his old friend and agent Don José Maria Gutierrez Estrada, and this before the allied forces had reached Vera Cruz, the following:

"The candidate of whom you speak to me (his Highness Archduke Fernando Maximiliano) is the best you could find; therefore I hasten to give him my approbation."

It seems that Señor Santa Anna knew as well, or better than any other, that the true object of the intervention was to destroy the republic and substitute for it a foreign prince supported by foreign bayonets. Nevertheless, he asserts that he was ignorant of what was going on, and on that account he thought it was necessary for him to go over to the intervention in order to investigate its proceedings and its attempts, and to watch over the guarantees and freedom of

his countrymen. This is the natural explanation of his visit to his country in 1864.

Here he will allow us to remind him of the following facts:

On the 28th of February, 1864, the day following his arrival at Vera Cruz, he addressed to Don Juan de Dios Peza, who styled himself Under Secretary of War and Navy of the Regency, a communication, in which, after acquainting him with his presence in that city, he uses the following words:

"In coming back to my native country, my intention is to co-operate, as much as I can, in the consolidation of the form of government that the nation has thought proper to adopt under the beneficent protection of the illustrious Prince designated in the high counsels of Divine Providence to raise the nation from the abyss of misfortune into which she was plunged by anarchy.

"I bring to the knowledge of the regency that it can have my humble services, and dictate the orders it wishes to the oldest veteran of the Mexican army."

This very clear expression of sentiment, signed by Señor Santa Anna, perfectly agrees with a humble letter which he previously addressed to Archduke Maximilian on the 22d of December, 1863, and with the manifesto of the nation published in Orizaba. This manifesto was the cause of the order of General Bazaine compelling him to re-embark. Amid his thousand praises of the archduke, and a thousand protestations of obedience, Señor Santa Anna says:

"If it had been possible for me to follow the Mexican commission, your highness would have heard through the lips of one of the pioneers of independence, who occupied for so many years the first place among his countrymen, the ratification of what the worthy president of that commission has expressed with so much eloquence and sincerity."

In the same letter he says that the empire with Maximilian at its head was the only remedy capable of curing the disease of Mexico, and the last dawn of its hope, and he concludes it with these expressive words:

"I hope your imperial highness will condescend to acknowledge in the oldest veteran of the Mexican army a devoted and disinterested friend, and your most obedient servant, who wishes you the greatest happiness, and humbly kisses the imperial hands of your imperial highness."

At that date, not very remote, Señor Santa Anna showed an enthusiasm and a devotion to the empire which strongly contrasts with his present declarations in favor of the republic.

The former manifesto resembles the latter only in this, that it describes with glowing colors the good and prosperous state of Mexico during the last dictatorship of Señor Santa Anna—an opinion which the Mexican people undoubtedly does not share, for they rose in mass against his Highness (a title which he took and compelled other people to acknowledge) and forced him to leave suddenly the territory of the republic. The rest of that document strongly censures all the republican governments of Mexico, and all those of the Hispano-American countries, and especially that presided over by Señor Juarez, that good patriot, as he calls him himself so deservingly in his present manifesto; and at the same time shows his complete attachment to monarchy and to Maximilian

"At solemn moments the good man sought to speak the truth with frankness and sincerity. The illusions of youth are gone; in presence of so many disasters produced by that system (the republican) I will not deceive anybody; the last word of my conscience and my conviction is, the constitutional monarchy."

Señor Antonio Santa Anna does not confine himself to praise of the monarchy and the archduke, but entreats the Mexicans in the most pressing manner to preserve the memory of the magnanimous monarch who has extended to them, so opportunely and generously, his powerful hand.

Are we not justified, with such facts before us, in doubting the assertions of his last manifesto, "that he went to investigate the proceedings of the intervention-

ists and look after the interests and liberties of his countrymen, and that he never aspired for a high position in the gift of the archduke?"

In his present manifesto Señor Santa Anna says:

"I have in no manner compromised myself with the empire; I belong entirely to the republic, and in presence of the danger by which our country is menaced, the name of all parties disappears from my sight. I am not a conservative, nor am I a liberal; I am a Mexican."

The contrast between Santa Anna's manifesto of 1864 and his manifesto of 1866 is so strong, that everybody will naturally feel inclined to inquire after the cause of this marvellous conversion. Mr. Santa Anna having prepared the question, we proceed to give the answer:

"General Bazaine" says he, "rudely drove me from the Mexican territory, and I was obliged to re-embark shortly after my arrival. I bear no resentment on that account. I am rather glad the outrage was committed, because it may have saved me from making certain compromises which circumstances might have imposed upon me, and because it opened my eyes regarding the intentions of the interventionists."

In one word, the rude treatment of General Bazaine is the reason why Señor Santa Anna extricates himself from his precedents, and forgets his warm advocacy of the intervention. We do not think that we do him an injury in believing that he would now be one of its strongest supporters if, instead of having received the order to re-embark, he had received with the imperial decoration his appointment as commander in some of the corps of the imperial army.

It is impossible to deny, however, that he proceeds systematically. Opposed to the intervention because ill-treated by General Bazaine, who represented it, he addressed, or at least said he was going to address, his complaints to the French Emperor in order to obtain the justice to which he was entitled. This monarch undoubtedly approved the act of the commander of his armies, as Señor Santa Anna did not receive (at least nothing is known on that subject) the apology which he expected.

What was the reason of his anger against Maximilian? Mr. Santa Anna tells it:

"What favor did I receive from the archduke? Does he not by his silence fully approve the violence which was committed against my person?"

Few explanations can be as conclusive as this. Señor Santa Anna knew that the intervention was in opposition to the wishes of his countrymen, because General Bazaine bids him to re-embark; he lost all faith in monarchy and all his enthusiasm for Maximilian, because the latter approved by his silence the conduct of the French general. We appeal to all sensible men to say if it is a temerity on the part of the antagonists of Señor Santa Anna to doubt of his conversion, and to suppose that in 1864 he went to Mexico to look for a high position from the archduke, and not to look for the security and the liberties of his countrymen.

In following the examination of the present manifesto, we find that Señor Santa Anna attempted to get rid of the accusation of having once aspired to the imperial crown, yet appearances condemn him.

During the dictature which he exercised in Mexico from the month of February, 1853, down to the month of August, 1855, his policy assumed such a course that everybody, the ignorant and the wise, foreigners and Mexicans, supposed that he was ready to proclaim himself emperor of Mexico. He suppressed all shadow of national representation, all vestige of popular election. All public officers, beginning with the governors of departments, and ending with the most insignificant of them all, the sub-prefect, were directly or indirectly appointed by him. He also ordered every one of his officers to be called by his respective title, while, according to the laws of the republic, these titles were to be given in writing only. He revived the order of the Knights of Guadalupe, which

was established by Emperor Iturbide, and appointed himself, of course, master of the order, changing the title of excellency, which had hitherto been given to the President of the republic, into that of serenissima highness. He created an army, which he dressed richly, and which he called his highness's guard; in short, he behaved in such a way that he cannot accuse the people of levity in attributing to him the intention of wearing the crown. This happened in 1853 and 1854, at a time when the memory of the prince resident of the French republic, and that of the coup d'etat of the 2d of December, was still fresh in all minds.

There is a circumstance which we ignored, and that Señor Santa Anna has just revealed to us:

"Generals, and even governors of departments," says he, "awaited only my acquiescence in order to proclaim me emperor on my birthday. * * * It was enough for me, in order to wear the imperial crown, to stretch out my hand.'

Señor Santa Anna will allow us a slight observation. We do not doubt for a single moment that the generals and governors appointed by his serenissima highness would have been disposed to proclaim him emperor, because worse things were seen in the Roman senate in the time of Tiberius; but we doubt very much that the Mexican people, who could not suffer him as dictator, and compelled him to fly in August, 1855, would have tolerated him as a king. Perhaps we are mistaken; but Señor Santa Anna will agree that our doubts are not without foundation.

If this is not sufficient, there is another conclusive proof: the full power which he gave to Señor Gutierrez Estrado on the 1st of July, 1865, "to enter into arrangements and make the proper offers to the courts of London, Paris, Madrid, and Vienna to obtain from those governments, or from any of them, the establishment of a monarchy derived from any of the royal races of those powers."

Here we cannot but confess that the arguments of Señor Santa Anna are extremely happy. This document proves conclusively that on the 1st of July, 1854, he did not think to make himself an emperor, but to sell his country, preparing to transfer it, with its hands and feet tied up, to the power of its conquerors, or to some other foreign princes. This, which, in accordance with the most obvious principles of universal morals, we call treason, Señor Santa Anna calls a master-stroke of disinterestedness. Of such a disinterestedness Señores Almonte, Marquez, and other traitors, supporters of Maximilian, could boast with as much reason. * * * He thought himself bound only to recognize the French intervention and Maximilian.

"But why insist in charging me?" says Señor Santa Anna in his last manifesto. "I sinned, and I repent; and to cause all my wrongs to be forgotten I am here now ready to fight, and die, if it is necessary, in defence of the independence of the republic, of the constitutional government to which I submit."

"Where is the Mexican who can refuse my services without deserving the opprobrium of history, or deny me the right to fight, and die, if necessary, in defence of our desolated hearths? * * * Do not forget that domestic disunions, when the soil of our country is being profaned by foreign invaders, is equivalent to desertion in the face of the enemy. * * * Let all dissensions among our countrymen cease, and let all hatred be reserved for the foreign domination that covers us now with ignominy and shame." "By reason of my antecedents, of my position in the conservative party, and even of my long absence from the country, I believe myself to be the one called upon to reunite all minds. * * * Confide in my words and be ready."

However inclined we are to believing what Señor Santa Anna tells us, we cannot erase from our memory that the same arguments he presents now in favor of the republic, he presented a few months ago in behalf of the intervention and of Maximilian. Then, upon his heart he swears that his last words were in favor

of monarchy; now, he assures us that they were in favor of the republic. What reasons can we find to believe the last better than the first?

As he wishes, however, to fight now for the republic, and to contribute to its triumph, we concede that Señor Santa Anna is right in the desire. Nobody can prevent him from doing it. Let him disburse a portion of his immense wealth on the purchase of arms to increase the number and the power of the independent soldiers. Let him go to Mexico, unfurl the tri-color banner, and precipitate himself against the invaders who are profaning the soil of our country. It may be so, but let us understand each other.

If we are to believe the city newspaper which has taken charge of assisting Señor Santa Anna, the latter wishes that the constitutional government should appoint him general-in-chief of the republican armies. Can Señor Santa Anna imagine that any one of these deserving, hungry, naked, disarmed citizens, who have been constantly struggling against the power of France for the last four years for independence and the republic would consent to obey him? Does he believe it possible that the constitutional government which represents that people, who keeps still fresh in its memory the defection of Urugua and others, could forget the protest Señor Santa Anna made yesterday in opposition to that of to-day, and give him command of that army which is the pillar of Mexican nationality? We are ready to concede that Señor Santa Anna's conversion is genuine. But who can tell us that if Señor Santa Anna was sick again, or if the French were to lay a snare for him like that of making him sign a document in the French language he does not understand, he would not transfer the army given him by the government for the defence of the republic to its enemies?

We beg Señor Santa Anna to dismiss his fervor, and he will be convinced that these mistrusts and doubts are all natural; that every person, however indifferent to our party divisions, is led to entertain them.

There is yet another reason which we beg Señor Santa Anna to weigh with impartiality. This very party, which has not bargained nor ever will bargain with the invader—those armed citizens whom he justly called heroes—they are the same who have been fighting till they have achieved the conquest of great principles, upon which rests now the Mexican constitution as well as its civil and religious liberty. That conservative party to which Señor Santa Anna formerly belonged, over which he has now, according to his own confession, a great influence, has been the constant adversary of that principle. Supposing Señor Santa Anna to act in good faith in defence of independence; will any one be accused of levity who fears that he would destroy, after his triumph, the work that Maximilian and the French did not dare to touch—a work that they wished to consider as a title of glory and popularity? Does Señor Santa Anna believe that these doubts and fears, so well founded, would give him such a fame as to enable him to conciliate opinions?

We could add more, but enough has been said to prove that we bear no personal hate to Señor Santa Anna, nor are we moved by a spirit of partisanship. None of these motives inspired the protest we signed on the 15th of last May. Simply citizens for the most part, and far remote from the influence of office, no one can say that we see in Señor Santa Anna a terrible rival and obstacle to our aspirations. All of us are moved solely by the love of our country, and by the wish to see it independent, for which we have fought and are ready to fight again.

FRANCISCO ZANCO, *President.*
CIPRIANO ROBERT, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 4.]

No. 389.] MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, May 24, 1866.

Messrs. Louis G. de Vidal y Rivas, Dario Mazuera, Rafael Pombo, and A. Baiz called on me this morning.

The first mentioned delivered me a letter from Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, dated in Elizabethport, the 21st instant, of which I enclose a copy.

* * * * * *

After seeing the commissioners I will reply to Mr. Santa Anna's communication, and will send a copy of my answer to your department.

I repeat the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, *Paso del Norte.*

[Enclosure No. 5.]

ELIZABETHPORT, NEW JERSEY,
May 21, 1866.

MY DISTINGUISHED COMPATRIOT: I have arrived in the United States on my way to our country, so worthily represented by you here, and I would have been pleased to visit you in Washington to inform you of the object of my journey; but as this is impossible at present, I have commissioned my friends Don Louis Vidal y Rivas, Colonel Dario Mazuera, and Don Abraham Baiz, with Don Rafael Pombo, who volunteers to accompany them, to represent me. They will present to you this letter, and I beg of you to receive what they may say as coming from myself.

I cannot remain an indifferent spectator of the misfortunes of our country, and I comprehend that my apparent indifference would be a crime. Under the present circumstances it is of the most urgent necessity for the triumph of the national cause that all factions should be reconciled; and that confidence should be restored both in the country and abroad, there must be a vigorous organization and unity of action.

My antecedents, and numerous manifestations that have been addressed to me from all parts of Mexico by former friends and even political opponents, by disappointed imperialists and by indifferent republicans, persuade me that I am the one who is called upon to set the necessary example as a loyal soldier and disinterested citizen, and to reconcile the national elements in order that the entire nation, as a single man, may work under the direction of its chief magistrate, and that the triumph may be as we cannot but desire, truly national, satisfactory to all, and giving sufficient assurance of a final, powerful, and respectable reorganization.

It is not strange that I am not yet judged with the impartial judgment of history; that day has not yet come. When it does, then can be applied to me the words of Montesquieu: "The errors of statesmen are not always voluntary; they are often the necessary consequences of the situations in which they are placed, where difficulties reproduce difficulties."

My enemies have seen in me only a Sylla; but now my greatest desire is to prove to them that I should not be compared to that ferocious Roman, except in entirely separating myself from public affairs when I still had power to control them. I have already once voluntarily given up public position when I still had powerful means for sustaining myself. Now it is my intention to cooperate towards the restoration of the constitutional republican government in the capital of Mexico; to see the people in the way of freely reorganizing them-

selves by means of their representatives, and then immediately to withdraw to private life, in order to die respected and tranquil in the bosom of my country. My ardent dream, my ambition, is to struggle once more for the independence of my country, and to re-establish the republic I was the first to proclaim in 1822, to pass the remainder of my years in the enjoyment of the love of my fellow-countrymen, and to merit that there shall be inscribed over my tomb the glorious title of a good citizen.

Of the firmness and sincerity of my intentions, if it is possible there can be any doubt, I am disposed to give whatever proofs may be exacted; and very far from wishing to act on my own account and thus promote still another conflict and a new dissension in the constitutional camp, I commence by addressing myself to you in order that we may come to an understanding with regard to the manner of my co-operation; and I beg to request that you will transmit this communication to Señor Juarez, as if addressed directly to him in asking his commands.

I do not doubt that the people of our country will in the end profit by the experience we have had. I am now neither conservative nor liberal; I am only a Mexican, and I open my arms to all my countrymen.

In a few days I will publish a manifesto, which I hope will satisfy all who desire to know my sentiments and the object of my journey. The gentlemen in charge of this letter will give to you all necessary explanations, and you can speak to them as you would to me.

I hope, however, to have an opportunity to see you and to renew to you personally the assurances of my high appreciation and esteem.

Your obedient servant and countryman,

A. L. DE SANTA ANNA.

His Excellency Don Matias Romero, *&c.*, *&c.*, *&c.*

[Enclosure No. 6.]

No. 391.] Mexican Legation in the United States of America,
Washington, May 25, 1866.

The commissioners of Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna called upon me again to day.

* * * * * * * * *

I answered Mr. Santa Anna's letter, of which I sent you a copy yesterday, in the terms which you will see in the enclosed copy of my answer.

I repeat the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

The Minister of Foreign Relations, *Paso del Norte.*

[Enclosure No. 7.]

Washington, *May* 25, 1866.

Dear Sir: Your commissioners, Don Louis Vidal y Rivas, Colonel Dario Mazuera, Don Abraham Baiz, and Don Rafael Pombo, placed in my hands yesterday the letter which you have been pleased to address to me under date of the 21st instant, from Elizabethport, advising me of your arrival in this country, on your way to Mexico, where, as you inform me, you desire to go to fight for the independence of the country, under the direction of its chief magistrate.

In compliance with your request in the said communication that I would transmit the same to the President of the republic, I forwarded yesterday a copy to the minister of foreign relations and of government.

I have listened with interest to what your commissioners have stated to me, in your name, with regard to your intentions and the motives that have guided your conduct. To avoid any misunderstanding, I think it proper to put my reply to them in writing, to be delivered to you as the result of their mission.

If you had not been the first to propose the establishment of a European monarchy in Mexico, when you were at the head of the nation, and had not recognized and sustained the intervention which the Emperor of the French is inflicting upon our country, as is proved by the documents recently published, I do not think there would be any difficulty in the government of the republic accepting and making use of your services, for, in a foreign war so holy as the present, all party differences should disappear; and, in my opinion, not even the President would have the right to prevent any Mexican, desirous of defending his country, from complying with his duty in this regard.

But, unfortunately, in your case, there are peculiar circumstances that change the aspect of the question. Besides resting now under the stain of having recognized and given all the weight of your influence to the treasonable project of overturning the national government of our country and establishing another that would make it a mere dependency of France, there is the circumstance that during the later years of your life you have been intimately associated with the reactionary party of Mexico, which is the party, as is well known, that has been the promoter and supporter of the unpatriotic designs that I have mentioned.

This is calculated to give rise to apprehensions that in the participation you are seeking to secure in the affairs of the republic you might undertake either to promote another revolution, as you have often done before, in favor of that party, or for the purpose of protecting the guilty members of it, which would be a new cause of disagreement and a great evil to our country, as thus the just expectations of our people would be frustrated; or, at least, that you might try to create a new party, and thus give rise to other dissensions which could only result in the benefit of our invaders. All these circumstances render it a difficult question, in my judgment, to decide whether it would be for the interest of our country that your services should be accepted or not. This question, as well from its grave importance as from the knowledge it requires of the circumstances of the nation, can only be decided by the chief magistrate of the republic to whom the Mexican people have confided its destinies.

I do not doubt that you are disposed to make the proper explanations and to give the necessary securities; nor do I doubt that, in view of all this and of the circumstances of the republic, the President will decide as may be best for the interests of the country.

Without awaiting his decision, I can say that I believe it to be your duty not to undertake any proceedings that may create difficulties or complications for the government or the nation if your services are not accepted.

I am, very attentively, your obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Señor Don ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA,
Elizabethport.

[Enclosure No. 8.]

No. 289.] DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND OF GOVERNMENT,
Chihuahua, July 6, 1866.

With your note (No. 389) of the 24th of May last you enclosed to me copy of the communication addressed to you, under date of the 21st, by Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, and with your note (No. 391) of the 25th of the same month you enclosed to me copy of your reply.

In this communication Señor Santa Anna manifested to you his desire to now

lend his services to the cause of the republic against the foreign intervention, and he asked you to transmit his communication to the government. You replied that you had so transmitted it, and explained to him the reasons why you judged it proper that you should leave it to the government to determine whether his services should be accepted or not.

Your two notes have been laid before the President of the republic, and he has approved your conduct in the affair.

Since the commencement of the existing war, in which Mexico defends her independence and her republican institutions against the pretensions of a foreign intervention, it has been the constant rule of the government of the republic never in any manner to refuse to accept, on account of past differences of a purely political character, the services of all Mexicans who in good faith desire to volunteer and loyally to defend the cause of their country. Far from opposing difficulties to those who have so proceeded, impelled by a noble patriotism, the government has justly esteemed and has accepted with satisfaction the services of those whom it might before have considered as political adversaries. Many of these are now combatting under the flag of the government, and others have already consummated their consecration to the country by a glorious death.

If the government could consider Señor Santa Anna in this condition, it would not hesitate for a single moment in thankfully accepting the offer of his services; but the grave charges which appear in all his previous conduct do not permit it to have any security in the loyalty of his intentions, nor even is there any doubt which might incline it in his favor.

This is not the occasion to enumerate the numerous charges that have been made and are now being made against him by honorable men of all parties and of all opinions, who consider him as the first and most constant promoter of anarchy, of immorality and of corruption. It is sufficient now to notice particularly the principal part which he has had in placing in peril the independence of the country, and in bringing upon it all the evils of a foreign intervention.

In the documents which have been published by his own accomplices, it is seen that when at the head of the government of the republic he solicited in 1854 European intervention, that he continued laboring for the same object thereafter, and that when Maximilian was proposed as its instrument he humbly offered to him his person, his influence and his services. Scarcely two years have passed since Señor Santa Anna came to the national territory with the hope of obtaining the reward of his treason, and solemnly protesting that the last conviction of his life was the monarchy, and his last desire to submit himself to a foreign power.

Defrauded in his hopes, rejected and banished by his own accomplices, who feared they might afterwards be betrayed by him, he did not even then resolve to serve his country, even although impelled by resentment at the insults he had received. The intervention then appeared powerful, and he did not wish to participate in the perils of the defenders of his country. Not until two years afterwards has he come to offer his services, when he has seen that the last hour of the intervention is about to strike.

If those who, led by him, have called in the foreigner, have believed that they had well-founded motives to distrust and fear that he would afterwards prove a traitor to them, how much greater would be the distrust and apprehension, upon seeing him at their side, of the defenders of the republic. Remembering that he had affiliated with all parties, that he had proclaimed every cause, and that he had recently protested his final adhesion to the foreign monarchy, they would not wish to combat in the same camp, fearing that he would deliver them up, and they would not wish to unite with him, much less place themselves under his orders, fearing that he would contrive their destruction.

They would even fear, as already some have said, that he came sent by the foreign intervention in order to introduce an element of discord among the de-

fenders of the republic, and in order that, on the termination of the intervention, those who have favored and sustained it might have in him a friend and supporter.

Even supposing that the intentions of Señor Santa Anna should now be loyal, the constant suspicion which would be awakened by his past acts would render not only useless under the present circumstances, but even prejudicial, the admission of his services.

Although the government might wish to place in him some confidence, it does not believe it possible that it would also be felt by the defenders of the national cause.

In order not to believe in his new protests of patriotism, they would repeat that he has violated before all his oaths, and that he has broken before his most solemn engagements.

In order not to believe his new protests of loyalty to the republic, they would repeat the charges that have been made, that as an officer he has been disloyal to all the governments that have employed him; that as the head of the government he has been disloyal to all the parties who have aided him to power; and that as a Mexican he has been lately disloyal to the cause of his country.

For these considerations the President of the republic does not believe it in any manner compatible with his duty to admit the offer which Señor Santa Anna has now sought to make of his services. Nor does he believe that his manifestations or protests of patriotism can be in any manner considered as sufficient to relieve him from the very grave charges which exist against him.

Señor Santa Anna having asked you to transmit to the government his communication, you will be pleased to transmit to him this reply. I renew to you my most distinguished consideration.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

The Citizen MATIAS ROMERO,
Minister of the Mexican Republic in the United States of America, Washington, D. C.

[Enclosure No. 9.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, August 6, 1866.

In my letter to you on the 25th of May last, in reply to yours of the 21st of the same month, I informed you I had sent your note of that date to the government of the republic, in accordance with your wishes. This day I received a note from Mr. Lerdo de Tejada, minister of foreign relations and government of the republic, dated in Chihuahua, the 6th of July last, and numbered 289, containing the answer of our government to your offer of services.

In accordance with instructions to me in that note, I send you a copy of it.

I embrace the occasion to renew the assurances of my most attentive consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Señor DON ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA,
New York.

WASHINGTON, *August* 12, 1866.

A true copy:

F. D. MACIN,
Second Secretary of the Legation.

[Enclosure No. 10.]

We, Maximilian, emperor of Mexico, decree:

ARTICLE 1. There shall be appointed a receiver to take an inventory of the property which Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna possesses within the limits of the empire.

ART. 2. Said receiver shall keep an exact account of the revenues yielded by such property, and shall make deposit of said revenues for safe-keeping, without deducting any sums except such as, with the approbation of this government, shall be allotted to the members of Santa Anna's family actually residing within the territory of the empire.

ART. 3. No contract having relation to the said property shall have the force of law without the written approbation of the said receiver.

Our minister of the interior is charged with the execution of the present decree.

Given at the palace, in Mexico, the 12th day of July, 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

By order of the emperor:

JOSÉ SALAZAR ILARREGUI,
Minister of the Interior.

No. 117.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 20, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 12th instant, containing some documents with regard to the offer of General Santa Anna of his services to your government and the refusal of the same to accept them, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 118.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, September 29, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, the documents mentioned in the accompanying index relative to Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's offer of his services to the government of Mexico, to which I alluded in my notes of the 26th of May and the 12th of August last to your department.

I am pleased to avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Index of documents sent by the Mexican Legation in Washington to the Department of State of the United States, with its note of this date, relating to Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.

No.	Date.	Contents.
	1866.	
1	Sept. 5	Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's reply to Mr. Romero's letter of the 25th of May last, and Mr. Lerdo de Tejada's note of the 6th of July following.
2	Sept. 20	Mr. Romero's refutation of Don A. L. de Santa Anna's charges and imputations in the preceding letter.
3	Sept. 25	Mr. Mariscal sends a copy of said letter to Mr. Ferrer de Conto, to be published in the Cronica.
4	July 29	Protest of Mexicans residing in San Francisco, California, against Don Antonio L. de Santa Anna's interference in public affairs in Mexico.
5	Aug. 5	Protest of Mexicans residing in New Almaden, California, on the same subject.
6	Aug. 16	Protest of Mexicans residing in San Andres, California, for the same purpose.
7	Aug. 19	Protest of Mexicans residing in Virginia City, Nevada, for a similar purpose.
8	Sept. 7	Protest of Mexicans residing in San Juan Bautista, with the same intention.
9	June 28	Extracts of the case of Taylor against Montgomery and Cañedo, about the purchase of the steamer Agnes, in the name of Don A. L. de Santa Anna, to bring him from St Thomas to the United States.
10	July 16	Extracts from the report of the suit of Don A. L. de Santa Anna against Abraham Baiz, for embezzlement of money given to him in trust.
11	July 17	Reply of Abraham Baiz's lawyers.
12	Aug. 27	Santa Anna's case in the supreme court of New York, before Judge Barnard, against Dario Mazuera and Abraham Baiz for breach of trust.
13	Aug. 28	Notice of the suit of L. Martin Montgomery against Don A. L. de Santa Anna, demanding $60,000 for services rendered as his agent.
	Aug. 28	Santa Anna's power of attorney given to Dario Mazuera, in St. Thomas, on the 12th of December, 1865, authorizing him to act for him in the United States.
14	Sept. 1	Notice of L. M Montgomery's suit against Don A. L. de Santa Anna, for services rendered.
15	Sept. 5	Notice of Emilia Cupia's suit against Don Luis G. Vidal y Rivas, for debt and his imprisonment.

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

WASHINGTON, *September* 29, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

No. 8 WEST TWENTY-EIGHTH STREET,
New York, September 5, 1866.

SIR: I acknowledge receipt of your note of the 5th ultimo, enclosing a copy of that of Don Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada, secretary for foreign affairs, dated at Chihuahua, July 6, 1866.

I had previously received your letter of May 25, in reply to my own of the 21st of the same month, in which I tendered once more my services for the defence of the national cause. The singular terms of which you make use in this letter, casting highly offensive and unjust imputations on my character, had restrained me from answering it; but, as the two notes mentioned at the beginning of this communication reproduce and officially approve those terms, I am compelled to reply to those imputations once for all. Before going any further, allow me to observe that the rude and aggressive tone in which you respond to

the courteous offer of my services in so solemn a cause seems to me not only out of place, but wholly unworthy of a public man.

In the notes alluded to, you see fit to make me the object of the most blackening charges. Señor Lerdo de Tejada, with equal disregard, adopts the same course. I feel, therefore, in duty bound, for the sake of truth, to oppose to said charges my most explicit and emphatic denial.

You say in your letter of May 25 (subsequently approved by Señor Tejada) that "I was the first to solicit the establishment of a European monarchy in Mexico when I was at the head of the supreme government," and that "I have recognized and supported the intervention of the French Emperor in our country's affairs, as appears from documents recently published." I had, until now, no idea that any one would regard as real evidence the gratuitous charges of persons who, among our own countrymen as well as among other people, are ever found ready to attack the members of any government without specifying or proving in proper form any of their accusations, but content themselves with uttering vain and declamatory accusations that have no weight except in the estimation of the ignorant. If the urbanity and courtesy with which I have always treated even those whom I have had to oppose has induced you to suspect me of supporting this or that form of government, you have fallen into a very serious mistake. In our past national struggles I have always treated Frenchmen, Spaniards, and North Americans, even on the field of battle, with that politeness which is invariably observed among cultivated men. It was reserved for you and Señor Lerdo de Tejada to reject the offer of my services to our country under the very strange pretext, indeed, of my alleged treason to all causes and parties.

If we except the present struggle, (and, as you say, it was brought upon our country, not by me, but by our evil passions and domestic discords,) there has not been a single instance in which Mexico, from the time of her political transformation in 1821, has been engaged in war that I was not the first to come forward to serve her unreservedly with my person and private resources. Thus you see that the courtesy and politeness with which I treated the imperial authorities, when it became necessary, is inadvertently made the basis of a charge of treason against me, and it is taken for granted that my obedience to the plain dictates of prudence is nothing but infidelity to my country. Facts, with their irresistible logic, are justifying me. Those decrees of expulsion with which the French intervention has favored me do not certainly afford evidence of that support given to the usurpers which has been so gratuitously attributed to me.

Further on you state your reasons for not accepting my services on behalf of the republican cause, remarking that "during the late years of my life I have appeared associated with the conservative party of Mexico, a party which," you say, "has promoted the anti-patriotic project of subjugating Mexico." "This," you continue, "would cause every one to fear that by having a share in the affairs of the republic I should contemplate a new revolution, as (so you say) I have done at other times in favor of the same party, and with the decided object of securing the impunity of its guilty members, thus disappointing the reasonable hopes of our people."

I do not understand how ideas so erroneous and incoherent can have occurred to you. If any real fear is entertained of my supposed design to lead a new revolution in the exclusive interest of one party, let me ask how could I start such a scheme by placing my sword at the service of its most bitter antagonists? If such were the case I should be commencing in the worst possible manner, and should sacrifice by such a step that irresistible influence which you say that I hold over the conservative party. Moreover, it would become impossible in such a way for me to make a whole, uniform, and compact body of that party. If I had any other object in view than that of uniting all parties in the defence of the republic and its independence, I would not have placed my services at

the disposal of those very leaders whom I had heretofore to oppose in arms while I was at the head of public affairs, and they were trying to disturb public order and to upset our political institutions. By this step I have tried to set an example, for our ruin is certain if, in the interest of our common country, we do not all forget our domestic dissensions and discords, and use our united endeavors in defence of the republic against all foreign and domestic enemies.

You, as well as Señor Tejada, charge that I did not offer my services to the republic in the day when the intervention appeared too powerful, but that now I do, when the intervention is about to be abandoned. I never looked upon the intervention as a very powerful and permanent institution. There is no foreign yoke so strong that a people, however weak they may be, cannot finally shake off. But it is sad for one who loves his country to see ill feelings, hatred, and revenge preside over the councils of even those who are at the head of a movement so worthy of the best success.

I do not, indeed, deplore so much the calumnious imputations of which I am made the object as that inexorable disregard with which the extermination of an important and valuable circle of Mexican society is boldly proclaimed. The terms in which you and the government at Chihuahua proscribe a numerous party of the Mexican people, form a perfectly horrible programme of death and desolation. It is an easy matter to set a place on fire, but not so easy to set bounds to the damage it may do, or to foretell the number of victims it may sweep away.

I do firmly believe that unless our domestic quarrels and hatreds be stifled, we can never expect to witness a cessation of this effusion of blood by our countrymen, or an end to the calamities that now afflict our unfortunate nation. Out of decorum I have carefully abstained from making any personal imputations while repelling the charges with which you and Señor Tejada have sought to overwhelm me, and which rest on the supposition that I am influenced by the worst of motives, and to judge even my inward intentions. Are you not aware of the confiscation of my valuable estates by the imperial authorities in punishment of my adhesion to the national cause?

I might as well have made no reply to the vague and unfounded charges contained in your notes alluded to, but I feared that my silence regarding points of so much delicacy may be construed in an unfavorable sense.

As to my past career, to which you allude by saying that I have served all parties, allow me to inform you that no partisan feeling has ever actuated my official conduct. As a soldier I have always been found at the post assigned to me by my duty. You cannot be ignorant that, in our international conflicts, I have always fought under that same flag which I was the first to unfurl before the civilized world—even before the formation of our republic. The rough terms in which your notes reject my services do not deter me from doing my best in behalf of our people. I am still influenced by the same desire. I acknowledge the same duty of using in the service of my country that sword with which she honored me in her brightest days. The people to whom you appeal will know how to appreciate my devotedness in thus disregarding the scorn of men whom I had to oppose, in former times, in the defence of our Mexican institutions. For my part I will always continue to promote union among our countrymen, considering it an indispensable condition for the triumph of the republic.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

A L. DE STA. ANNA.

His Excellency Don M. Romero,
Minister from the Republic of Mexico, at Washington, D. C.

Washington, *September* 29, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.]

WASHINGTON, *September* 20, 1866.

DEAR SIR: Night before last I received your communication of the 5th instant, in reply to mine of the 25th of May last and 6th of August following, with the last of which I sent you the answer of our government to your offer of services in your letter of the 25th of May, already mentioned.

The reason why it was so long reaching me was, it was mailed unpaid to the post office, most likely through the oversight of your secretary, as you will see by the envelope which I return to you, and was not forwarded, but sent to the dead letter office of the department in Washington, whence it was sent to me by courtesy the night before last. I make this explanation to excuse myself for not answering your communication sooner.

Here I ought to conclude this letter were it not for your remarks and charges made upon the government I represent, and upon me in person, which compel me to give a more lengthy reply to your communication. This I prefer doing in a private letter, because I can thus speak to you more frankly than I could in the official style.

You call the language used in the reply to your offer of services as seeming rude and offensive, and you term it improper and altogether unsuited to public men. These complaints, which I think without foundation, reached me since my letter of the 25th of May was in the hands of your commissioners. If you had confined yourself to making an offer of your services in writing, I would have done no more than acknowledge the receipt of your communication, and informed you that I would transmit it to my government; but, besides writing, you saw proper to send a committee composed of four gentlemen, who were to explain your wishes and plans to me. According to your instructions, and the tenor of your letter of the 21st of May to me, they entered into minute explanations, with great candor on my part, about the condition of our country, and the propriety of accepting or declining your services. After two long interviews with them, I thought it my duty to put the principal points of my remarks in writing, so that there should be no doubt about my meaning. In my letter I did my best to be frank without being disrespectful to you. I had no cause to offend you, nor would I have used it had there been a reason. I have too much respect for the position in which my government has placed me to abuse it by entering into personal disputes. Moreover, it would have been very ungenerous in me to seek to offend you, when you were offering your services to our country. This is not my nature. If, therefore, you found some sentences in my letter which you thought harsh, and perhaps so might have been, you must attribute them to the circumstances and facts emanating from your antecedents, and not to any inoble desire to insult you.

Allow me, sir, to inform you, once for all, that, as I took no part in the public affairs of our country while you were in it—for I have only been connected with politics in Mexico since December, 1855, and you left Vera Cruz in August of that year—I have never had you for an opponent in politics, nor have I suffered any injury from you or your government, and, of course, have not the slightest cause of resentment against you. I look upon you as a historical character, and I judge you, and have always judged you, as far as I was able, with the same impartiality you might expect from future generations.

You complain that I made charges against you in my letter of the 25th of May, which you term defamatory, and say are without foundation. They are two, namely:

First. That you were the first to solicit the establishment of a foreign monarchy in Mexico when you exercised the supreme power.

Second. That you recognized and supported the intervention which the Emperor of the French has brought to our country.

These two facts are so well known, and have been acknowledged by you on so many occasions, and in so many ways, that I am surprised that you now attempt to deny them, and that you term them "gratuitous imputations." You may allege, as an extenuating circumstance, that you were mistaken, as you have already said; you may say that the error was in good faith; that thus you thought to promote the well-being and prosperity of our country; but the fact that you solicited the establishment of a foreign government in Mexico, and that you acknowledged and submitted to French intervention, and gave it the support of your name, is altogether undeniable.

To convince you that I am not "repeating the imputations that have been thrown upon you without proof or substantiation of the charges," I would inform you, at the risk of being prolix, that the publications recently made by your late political friends furnish all the proof necessary in this particular. The full powers you gave to Don José Maria Gutierrez de Estrada, on the 1st day of July, 1854, while you were dictator in Mexico, "authorizing him to negotiate with the courts of London, Paris, Madrid, and Vienna, and to make due efforts to obtain from these governments, or any one of them, the establishment of a monarchy, derived from one of the dynastic houses of those powers:" This might prove whether or not how disinterested you were, when you were ready to give up your place to a foreign prince at a time when you could have made yourself monarch, as you assert in your manifest of the 7th of June last; but it leaves the fact that you did solicit the establishment of a European monarchy beyond doubt.

In the same documents before quoted, published in January last in numbers 20 and 22 of the so-called Diario del Imperio, the authenticity of which you have never disputed, it is seen that as soon as you heard that the Emperor Napoleon had decided to send the Archduke Maximilian to Mexico—that is, on the 30th of November, 1861, even before the allied forces had arrived upon the territory of the republic you wrote to Mr. Gutierrez Estrada from the island of St. Thomas, as follows:

"The candidate of whom you speak (his imperial highness the Archduke Maximilian) is unexceptionable, and, of course, I hasten to give him my approbation." Not yet satisfied, you wrote a letter to the archduke himself on the 22d of December, 1863, expressing great admiration for him personally, and making protests of submission of such a nature they might serve as a model of epistolary style for despotic governments.

You next went to Vera Cruz, and on the 28th February, 1864, you wrote to Don Juan de D. Peza, so-called under secretary of war and marine of the regency established by the French, informing him you had returned to Mexico "to co-operate, as much as you could, in the consolidation of the government created by the intervention;" and you concluded by asking that the so-called regency might give you any orders it esteemed convenient.

If, after this, you persist in saying you did not recognize the acts of the French intervention, we must confess that language with you has a different meaning from what the generality of men give to it.

In the communication I am now answering you say: "If you take the politeness and civility with which I am accustomed to treat even those who are opposed to me as evidences of a support to this or that government, you are very much mistaken."

If you call your support of French intervention in Mexico by the name of civility and politeness, we can hardly believe your offer of services to us in May last to be serious. Perhaps you will hereafter call that mere politeness and civility, particularly when, on comparing the terms of the two offers, we find the language of the latter much more expressive than that of the former.

Continuing your very difficult task to prove that you did not recognize intervention, you say:

"Facts are in open contradiction to you. Did the partisans of Maximilian, or the French who sustained him, allow me to stay a moment on the soil of our country?"

And further on you add:

"Do you not know that my immense estates have been confiscated as a punishment for my adhesion to the national cause?"

Because the French and traitors did not admit you, it is no proof that you did not offer them the influence of your name, and even the assistance of your sword; but it is a proof that, on account of your past conduct, and from the peculiarities of the present, you did not inspire them with confidence.

The fact that the usurper has ordered the sequestration of your property in the State of Vera Cruz, far from demonstrating that you did not recognize him, is a proof that you are a traitor to his cause. The property of Mexicans who did their duty from the first by opposing French intervention and all its consequences, has not been systematically sequestrated or confiscated, while yours has been. This goes to show that you have been with them, and they have reason to treat you with especial severity.

These two points settled, I now proceed to the others mentioned in your communication.

You say in two places that I rejected your services, which I do not think is exactly so. You offered them to my government, through me. I immediately sent your offer to the President of the republic, and in my conference with your commissioners I told them frankly why I thought it was doubtful whether they would be accepted, and why I could not accept them. The goverment could have accepted them even after what I said, if it deemed it would be for the interest of our country.

Among the reasons I then gave for thinking of doubtful expediency the acceptance of your offer, I mentioned that your alliance during the last years of your life with the conservative party of Mexico, who have been the originators and supporters of the anti-patriotic project to constitute Mexico a dependency of France, would cause a fear that in your participation in the affairs of the republic you might try to excite a revolution in favor of that party, so as to leave guilty persons unpunished, or attempt to establish a new party.

You are pleased to term these powerful considerations "incoherent and contradictory arguments," and proceed to explain why you say so. No one who is acquainted with your anteeedents, and who judges you impartially, can fail to see the foundation of those fears.

The fact that the republic as well as the French have rejected your offers, shows that both Mexicans and French doubt your good faith and fear your defections. No one can doubt that you have given cause for this mistrust.

You say, in speaking about the parties of Mexico, you are favoring no party in Mexico, but your only desire is to unite all in defence of the republic and independence.

Further on you say: "Certainly I do not deplore the defamatory imputations made upon me so much as I do that inexcusable blindness with which the extermination of a valuable portion of our society is openly proclaimed. The terms in which you and the government of Chihuahua proscribe a large portion of the Mexican people presents a programme of death and desolation too horrible to contemplate."

I might agree with you in some of your remarks about the conciliation of parties; in regard to the others, I must say to you that nothing in my letter of the 25th of May, nor anything in the note from Mr. Lerdo de Tejada of the 6th of July, justifies the interpretation you give to both documents.

There must be parties in republican governments to serve as barriers to usurpation of those in power and as a counterpoise to the executive; and as long as they keep within legal limits, they are an advantage rather than an evil to the

nation. Their organization and aims depend upon questions of the day, and end with them. The principal question discussed in Mexico since the establishment of the republic is progress, and the party advocating it is termed the *liberal party;* the party in favor of the *statu quo* or retrogression is called the *conservative party.*

The members of this last party exceeded the limits of law and patriotism when they solicited the intervention of a foreign nation in the domestic affairs of its country, to overthrow the national government and establish an order of things which, whatever may be the appearance, could only constitute it a European dependency. Now, this party, with few exceptions, recognized the intervention which some of its leaders had solicited, and have continued to support it. From that moment it ceased to be a political party and changed into a traitor faction.

The liberal party, with the exception of a few renegades, believed it a duty to oppose foreign intervention and defend the independence of the country at all hazards. From that time the names and objects of the parties changed. One is the national or independent, struggling against foreign conquest; the other is the traitor Frenchified party, composed of those who favor the invader of the country.

All the former conservatives who were animated by patriotic sentiments, and did not choose to follow their party, have met with a kind of frank welcome from the national party; and the few liberals who joined the usurper now belong to the traitor faction. The efforts of the national government to rally around its flag all Mexicans, without distinction of party, are well known. All those who invited the invader, or are assisting him materially, no matter whether they were called conservatives or liberals, are guilty of treason in my opinion, and ought to be punished according to law. This is required by public morality, for the welfare of society.

In my letter of the 25th May, I did not say it was feared your intervention in the politics of our country would cause a revolution in favor of the conservative party for the purpose of saving that party from punishment, but only the guilty members, and this is not proscribing the whole party, as you seem to understand it.

In this second war of independence the same events are taking place that occurred in the first; a portion of the nation, though much less than that which joined the Spaniards then, now unite with the French. Those fought against their brothers who were contending for the most sacred right upon earth; these strive now, under the French flag, to subjugate the common mother.

The inexperience and candor of our fathers induced them to accept those Mexicans opposed to independence when for personal interest they abandoned the cause they were defending, and left the situation in their hands. The evil consequence of this serious error was immense, and the present French intervention is one of the results. To make the parable more perfect, there is yourself, who first fought with the Spaniards and then turned independent; now helping French intervention, then opposing it. I consider it the duty of every Mexican, however little love he may have for his country, to contend against the repetition of the error of 1821.

In conclusion, you say "your public conduct has never been governed by party motives," and that, "as a soldier, you have always occupied the post of duty."

It seems to me altogether unnecessary for me to dwell upon your antecedents, as nothing could be gained by the discussion. Your acts are indelibly consigned to history; and I think I can assure you that no one who desires to hand down a spotless name to posteriry would envy you some of your antecedents.

If any doubt remains about the good sense and correct judgment of the Mexican government in rejecting your services, you have dissipated it by declaring

your intention of taking part in Mexican affairs, even against the resolution of the government of the republic. If you had that intention, your offer of services could certainly not have been in good faith.

If you acknowledge the President as the supreme chief of the nation, who is to direct the defence of the country, you ought to submit to his determination. If this is unjust or inconsiderate, the responsibility falls on him, and not on you; but, after knowing that he considers your presence in the republic as prejudicial to the cause of independence, if you insist upon entering the country, whether to join the unrepenting traitors, or to raise a new party, either act will be considered as unpatriotic and criminal.

You say "you have refrained from personal imputations of every kind, through respect, while repeating those used so profusely by Mr. Lerdo de Tejada and myself."

I presume you do not mean by this, that you could give mean motives of our conduct towards you. If this is so, it is certainly your duty to the nation to make the revelation. If it alludes solely to personalities, having no connection with public affairs, you have acted very prudently in not mentioning them.

In accordance with this principle, I too have refrained from everything not in direct connection with the acceptance of your services. However, I cannot but mention, in connection with this incident, that you would have spared much discredit to the good name of Mexico if you had never come to this country; for your conduct in New York, the facts your different lawsuits have brought to light, whether as plaintiff or defendant, and every other incident of your litigations, are of such a nature that they bring the blush to the cheeks of every man who has the least regard for the honor and good name of Mexico in other countries.

In various parts of your letter you attribute to me expressions made by Mr. Lerdo de Tejada; as when you say, "I accuse you of not offering your services to the republic when you thought intervention successful, and now, when it is about to expire, you offer your aid to the victors." In other places you assert what neither of us had said; for instance, speaking of the conservative party, you say, "I imagine you have an irresistible influence on it." I can find no such sentence in my letter to you, or anything that could authorize you to attribute it to me.

I have purposely refrained from taking any notice of what you say in regard to Mr. Lerdo de Tejada, as that gentleman is fully capable of answering you much better than I could, if he thought proper to do so.

In conclusion, I must inform you that this letter ends the discussion of your remarks in the note of the 5th; and if you do write me another letter, I hope you will excuse me from answering it, for I believe the continuation of this discussion can result in no good. Facts, in regard to doubtful points, will demonstrate who is right, or who has come nearest to the truth.

I remain, sir, your most attentive and obedient servant,

M. ROMERO.

Señor DON ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA, *New York City.*

WASHINGTON, *September* 29, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

MEXICAN LEGATION,
Washington, September 25, 1866.

To the Editor of La Cronica:

Mr. Romero, minister of the Mexican republic, having seen, in your issue of the 15th instant, that Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, now a resident of

your city, saw fit to publish the communication he addressed to Mr. Romero on the 5th instant, casting to the government he represents, and to himself personally, various imputations altogether unfounded, I have been instructed by him to beg of you to publish in your paper his answer to Señor Santa Anna, a copy of which is herewith enclosed.

Mr. Romero would not have been willing to have his answer published had he not been provoked to do so, as he believes that a discussion of this kind, carried on among Mexicans living in a foreign country, cannot be of any profit.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

IGNACIO MARISCAL,
Secretary of the Mexican Legation.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

PROTEST OF THE MEXICAN CITIZENS RESIDENT IN SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, AGAINST DON ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

As, according to information received from New York, Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna is laboring to connect himself with the affairs of Mexico, from whence he has been rejected by the national will, the Mexicans resident in San Francisco, California, considering that the publication of a manifesto made in New York by Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna is a proof that he is seeking to interpose obstacles to the re-establishment of order, which has been interrupted in the republic by the foreigners called in by the said Santa Anna himself;

Considering that Santa Anna, in addition to the crimes which he has committed in the several epochs when he has occupied the supreme power, whether as the so-called supporter of liberal principles, or as the supporter of the reactionists, in either case seeking only to give greater scope to his ignoble passions, now adds the most odious crime of treason in having charged Gutierrez Estrada to negotiate for a European prince, and afterwards swearing humble homage to that same prince, whom he called emperor;

Considering that Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna has been the enemy of progress in Mexico, and always despotic in the exercise of power whenever he has been intrusted with it;

And considering, finally, that Santa Anna is the man of all others who has been the most pernicious to Mexico, who has caused the tears and blood of his fellow-citizens to flow whenever he has been at the head of affairs, through his misdeeds, his ambition, and his vices:

We declare and protest that we, the Mexicans hereunto subscribing, unitedly adhere to the protest of the Mexican Club of New York against Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, published in "El Nuevo Mundo" of the 29th of the month last passed; and we invite all the patriotic clubs of this State and of Nevada to join in the same.

SAN FRANCISCO, *July* 29, 1866.

José A. Godoy,	Teodora Peralta,
Bernardo Smith,	Nicolas Martinez,
Ugenio Uzeta,	José Alcaraz,
Ignacio Uzarraga,	Lauriano Diaz,
P. Carmona,	Tomas Jewett,
Francisco Romero,	M. E. Jimenez,
Victoriano Guillen,	Juan Ribas,
Guillermo Wilson,	Adolfo Schober,
Miguel Martinez,	Amado Mendoza,
Teodora Mendez,	F. P. Ramirez,
John Kolnor,	Clodomiro Madero,

Christobal Juarez,
Andres Zuñiga,
Jorge Andro,
Sabino Ortega,
J. F. Lozano,
José Maria Neiro,
Augustin Cardona,
Augustin Jewett,
Jorge Jewett,
Pedro Ruiz,
Antonio Pedrin,
Augustin Ramirez,
Enrique Navarro,
Gerardo Davila,
Felipe Aguayo,
Frederico Aguilar,
And many others.

[Enclosure No. 5.—Extract from the Nuevo Mundo, San Francisco, August 13, 1866. No. 378.]

THE MEXICAN PATRIOTIC CLUB OF NEW ALMADEN.

This society being stimulated by the Mexican patriotic clubs of New York and San Francisco, in their action against the manifest of Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, and believing, like those societies, that any intervention in the policy of the national government of Mexico would result in the destruction of our nationality; and considering that, with the evil influence he has exercised in Mexico with the conservative faction and its accomplices, the ministers of religion, there may be great fear of his false language finding an echo, and that rumors that have risen since his arrival in the United States may become true; considering that some misinformed parties in the United States might lend him moral aid on his return to Mexico, where his mere presence would cause the most horrible anarchy, and only serve to fortify the hated Austrian archduke in power; considering that in all his different administrations of the government, he has shown himself to be the man to be most dreaded in our country; considering that the said Santa Anna assimilated his form of government to that of the Spanish monarchy, and made use of his diplomacy to solicit a European prince for the eminently republican and democratic country of Mexico; considering that if he returned to our country, he might get into power by some means or other, and his political adversaries, without personal guarantees, would be made to disappear from the political arena under some frivolous pretext; considering that the want of respect shown for us abroad, and which we lament, is the result of the military riots he always excited and directed; and finally, considering that if the man of no fixed political principles was rejected by the imperial party, it is hardly probable the great republican party of Mexico would sully their ranks or pollute the holy cause by admitting him: The undersigned, therefore, for themselves and the inhabitants of the village, consisting mostly of Mexicans, devoted to the liberal institutions of their country and to its independence, declare and protest:

1st. That we view Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna only as the odious petty tyrant, whose tendencies were always to oppress us, to impoverish us, and betray us.

2d. That we regard that wicked Mexican as guilty of high treason, because he conceived the black design of imposing a European prince upon us, when he found out he could not perpetuate the dictatorship he had assumed, by shedding torrents of Mexican blood that clothed the country in mourning for a dozen years.

3d. That if we saw him in our country, we would be compelled to condemn him to the punishment he deserves, for violation of laws, of public morals, and human justice.

NEW ALMADEN, *August 5*, 1866.

P. RUEDA FLORES, *President.*

José Valenzuela.
Romualdo Velasquez.
Librado Esparza.
Esteban Galvan.

Francisco Salmon.
T. Vallejo.
Miguel Tejeda.
José Maria Arismendiz.
Juan Loyer.
Asencion Gutierrez.
Octaviano Gutierrez.
Candelario Gallardo.
Tomas Guerrero.
Felipe de T. Alvarez.
Apolinar Reyes.
Jesus Salcedo.
Pascual Borguez.
Hombono Velasquez.
Juan N. Beñales.
Jesus Herrera.
Urbano Quevedo.
José M. Ayon.
Domingo Morales.
Herculano Garcia.
Nemesio Correa.
Antonio Estrada.
Francisco Carrillo.
Hermenegildo Bueno.
José M. Moreno.
Exiguio Magallanes.
Abram Ruis.
Leon Chavira.
Saturnino Gandara.
Loreto Pimentel.
Jesus Moreno.
Juan Gonzales.
Indalecio Villareal.
Eulogio Franco.
Manuel Yanez.
Colosio Noriega.
Joaquin Ramirez.
Leonardo Rivera.
Guadalupe Guerrero.
Francisco Chafiro.
Pascual Borques.
Ignacio Carillo.
Julian Medina.
Desiderio Sanchez.
José M. Raso.
Jesus Guerrero.
José M. Montijo.
Julian Medina.
Antonio Cardenas.
Cruz Flores.
N. Casara, M. D.
Francisco Canillo.
Blas Mendoza.
Francisco Peña.
Angel Romero.
Teodoro Ramos.
Francisco Jimenez.
Cruz Mercado.
G. A. Gallardo.
Cruz Diaz.
Ricardo G. Huerta.
Santiago Robles.
Cruz Favela.
Blas Mendoza.

MANUEL DELGADO, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 6.]

MEXICAN PATRIOT CLUB OF SAN ANDRES.

SAN ANDRES, *August* 16, 1866.

I have the honor to transmit to you the original protest of this club, in approval of that made in your city by the loyal resident Mexicans, against the sinister pretensions of Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, which you will see in a manifest published by him. Although this protest is not clothed in the flowery language of eloquence, it is none the less a sincere expression of the determined will and firm conviction of the Mexicans who have signed it. Please consider it as such, and accept the assurances of my attentive consideration.

Independence and liberty!

JOAQUIN MIRANDA Y WIÑA, *President.*

JOSÉ ANTONIO GODOY,
Consul of the Mexican Republic in San Francisco.

Mexican Patriot Club of San Andres.

As this society is impressed with the loyal and patriotic act of the Mexican citizens residing in San Francisco, approving the protest of the Mexican Club

of New York against the sinister pretensions of Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna to meddle in the affairs of Mexico; and considering that his ex-serene highness has been, is, and ever will be the most implacable enemy of the great liberal party that instituted the excellent code of 1857, and the reform laws; considering that Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, in his different and many terms of administration of the Mexican government, never promoted the progress of the country, but, on the contrary, converted the national treasury into his personal patrimony; considering that Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna bears the stigma of high treason to his country, for it was he who invited a foreign prince to rule us, and was the first to recognize him as emperor of Mexico; and considering, finally, that the presence of this man in Mexican territory would be destructive to the interests of the republic, and a great obstacle to the final triumph of our good cause which we now behold so near, solemnly declares and protests that it adheres, in every particular, to the protest made by the Mexican citizens of San Francisco, and published in No. 373 of the Nuevo Mundo.

Let the original of this resolution be sent to citizen José Antonio Godoy, consul of the Mexican republic in San Francisco, for consequent action.

SAN ANDRES, CALAVERAS COUNTY, *August* 16, 1866.

Joaquin Miranda y Wiña.	Cornelio Bravo.
Francisco R. Subia.	Carlos Noriega.
Pablo Amador.	Guadalupe Sanchez.
Jesus Blaisillas.	Pedro Silvas.
Jesus Morales.	Benito Lopez.
Jesus H. Eredia.	Desiderio Madrid.
Juan Meza.	Feliciano Madrid.
Jesus Sarañanas.	Antonio Lopez.
Luis Rosales.	Refugio Armenta.
José Ma. Cervantes.	José Ma. Amarillas.
Juan Martinez.	Manuel Vazquez.
Benito Lopez.	Jesus Miranda.
Jacobo Gimenez.	Evaristo Chavez.
Jesus A. Sonorita.	Juan Mercado.
Francisco Grijalva.	José Maria Lunar.
Manuel T. Liborio.	Lorenzo Lopez.
Zenon Cordova.	Eugenio Miranda.

Names of citizens not members of the club, but who approve the protest:

Rafael Ochoa.	Ignacio Verdugo.
Benigno Gallegos.	Francisco Castro.
Rufino Silvas.	Guillermo Cordova.

[Enclosure No. 7.]

MEXICAN PATRIOT CLUB OF VIRGINIA CITY, STATE OF NEVADA.

I send you a copy of the protest made by Mexicans residing in this city, and beg you will request the editors of the Nuevo Mundo to insert it in their valuable and estimable paper, in the name of the society.

I repeat the assurances of my consideration and esteem.

FRANCISCO COTA, *President.*
JOSÉ RAMIREZ, *Secretary.*

Citizen JOSÉ A. GODOY,
President of the Mexican Patriot Club
of San Francisco, California.

Protest made by Mexicans residing in Virginia City, State of Nevada, Story county, against the manifest published by Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.

After a close examination of the manifest published by Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, and witnessing the energetic and patriotic attitude assumed by the patriot clubs of New York, San Francisco, and other cities of the State of California, protesting against any interference of the said Santa Anna in the political affairs with Mexico, and we, the undersigned, considering the pernicious influence he would exercise in a certain class of Mexicans, hostile to progress and the laws of reform we have instituted at great cost and with the sacrifice of many precious lives, if he were to make his appearance again in Mexico, and which he would annul if he got the reins of government again into his hands; considering that at the different times he governed us he showed his incapacity and want of political principle, opposing to-day what he advocated yesterday, and using the public revenue to increase his personal wealth; considering that whenever he grasped for power he did it by illegal means, never trusting to the will of the nation, and never promoted the public weal, which is the prime duty of every ruler; considering that, supported by mercenary bayonets and a corrupt clergy, he has been the great cause of the anarchy, ruin, and desolation that has involved Mexico for the last forty years; considering that he has alienated a great portion of the Mexican territory by the disgraceful sale he made of it to the United States, at the time he was dictator, giving himself the pompous title of serene highness, and whose intolerable tyranny gave rise to the Ayutla constitution, that put an end to his despotism; and considering, finally, that Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna is wanting in all those qualities that constitute a statesman and honorable man, we have assembled to protest, and do protest, against all interference of said Santa Anna in the political affairs of Mexico, and we ask that as soon as he treads upon Mexican territory he may be judged by the laws of the land, and receive the condign punishment he deserves, as guilty of the crime of high treason.

FRANCISCO COTA, *President.*

VIRGINIA CITY, STATE OF NEVADA,
August 19, 1866.

Juan J. Alvarez.
Florentino Alvarez.
Bernardo Arambula.
Pascual Andrade.
Dionisio Aguilar.
Bartolo Bustamante.
Ignacio Ceballos.
Rosario Carrasco.
Trinidad Carabajal.
José Castro.
Juan Cuevas.
Marcelino Carabantes.
Eulogio Carrillo.
Geonario M. Cordoba.
Luciano Collantes.
Francisco Castillo.
Jesus Estrada.
Ambrosio Espinosa.
Antonio Helenes.
Ignacio Franco.
José Juan Grijalva.
Francisco Gonzales.
Santos Guzman.
Manuel Encinas.
Pedro Alvarado.
Pragedes Reina.
José Maria Gonzales.
Zacarias Martinez.
Prudencio Macias.
Merced Areyanes.
Juan Zabala.
Sacramento Duarte.
Navor Felix.
Santiago Ontiveros.
Ignacio Herrera.
Juan Tapia.
Juan Carrasco.
José Venites.
Trajano Gomez.
Ramon Llaguno.
Leandro Encinas
Onofre Moreno.
Paulino Aguiar.
Vicente Losa.
Jesus Lopez.
Longino Duarte.

Francisco Javier Huerta.
Clemente Lugo.
Donaciano Mazon.
José M. Macias.
Guzman Morales.
Francisco Miranda.
Blas Mendez.
Antonio Matuz.
Juan Antonio Martinez.
José Maria Najar.
Felipe Ortega.
Antonio Orozco.
Blas Portela.
Jesus Peralta.
Baltazar Rodriguez.
Ramon Ruiz.
José Maria Roldan.
Abelardo Rostato.
José Solano.
Silvestre Toquinto.
Jesus Vanitez.
Antonio Valencia.
José Vila.
Merced Villegas.
Sacramento Lopez.
Eulogio P. del Castillo.
Rafael H. Gonzales.
Gabriel Flores.
Maximiano Lechuga.
José Maria Preciado.
José Padilla.
José Maria Ramirez.
Hilario Arambula.
Rosalino Soto.
Manuel Acosta.
Francisco Coronado.
Antonio Coronado.
Juan Peralta.
Pedro Soto.
José Perez.
Bautista Parra.
Juan Huerta.
Isidro Fontes.
Gabriel Hurtado.
Ramon Fabela.
Alejo Carrillo.
Arcadio Valencia.
Sostenes Guerrero.
Felipe Torres.
Trinidad Bañagas.
Antonio Escalante.
Geronimo Castillo.
Ramon Rojel.
Antonio Castillo.
Alejo Baldenebro.
José Maria Rojel.
Jesus Maytorena.
Manuel Mazon.
Jesus Cota.
José Ramirez.
Jesus Valenzuela.
Felipe Orozco.

A true copy:

JOSÉ RAMIREZ, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 8.]

PROTEST AGAINST DON ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA—MEXICAN PATRIOTIC CLUB OF SAN JUAN BAUTISTA.

SAN JUAN BAUTISTA, *September* 7, 1866.

You will see by the annexed protest, which I beg you to publish, that we few Mexicans whose names are hereto affixed, filled with enthusiasm for the good of the country, and indignant at the acts of Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, believe it our duty to make known our protest to you, hoping you will appreciate our sentiments, though feebly expressed.

IGNACIO P. VILLEGAS, *President.*
J. E. SEPULVEDA. *Secretary.*

Citizen JOSÉ ANTONIO GODOY,
Mexican Consul in San Francisco.

Patriotic Club of San Juan Bautista—meeting of the 7th September. Protest against Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, drawn up by the undersigned, for himself and in the name of the other Mexicans whose names are hereto signed.

On beholding the seeming candor of Santa Anna in boasting his antecedents and trying to persuade the world that he is the chosen one to re-establish order

and unity of action, we can do no less than censure him, and protest that, so far from accepting his services, the Mexican republic ought to judge him with the severity that his crimes deserve, as soon as it can be done. In his note to Mr. Matias Romero he offers to act in a subordinate rank, but his antecedents, his character, and his public life, even previous to 1822, make us believe his presence in Mexico would exercise that evil influence which has always presided over his destiny, as a soldier or a magistrate, in the affairs of the nation, and that he would soon aspire to the chief magistracy as a reward for his services, for his ambition knows no bounds, and he has never acknowledged any other principles than those of force and intrigue. History condemns him, and the words of Montesquieu, that justice and right are inapplicable to certain individuals; and he is one of them, as the whole world knows. He certainly forgot to quote Machiavelli. to give greater force and validity to his antecedents. We thank him for his desires and efforts to restore the government, re-establish the republic, and consolidate our liberal institutions that have never ceased to exist, and require no other consolidation than that of peace, which he is the last man in the world to accomplish; the Mexican people, therefore, do not need him for any of the purposes for which he proclaims himself competent. Being brought up in a revolutionary school ourselves, we know what to expect of him.

Considering, therefore, that Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna wishes to return and take an active part in the affairs of the nation, we declare and protest—

1st. That as Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna was the cause and promoter of the many civil revolutions and calamities that Mexico has suffered, and has abused the power intrusted to him by the nation, betraying the national interests;

2d. That his reappearance on Mexican territory would be an injury to our cause, would make it unpopular, and would render the union of those now defending it impossible; and

3d. That if Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna returns to Mexico, under any pretext whatever, he ought to be tried and sentenced as a traitor, according to the laws of the country.

We, the undersigned, make this protest, under the conviction that Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna should not be permitted to return to Mexico, and we hope all good Mexicans are of the same opinion, and will give him the welcome he deserves, if he dare return.

SAN JUAN BAUTISTA, *September* 7, 1866.

Ignacio P. Villegas.	Domiugo Villa.
Justo Soleto.	Antonio T. Villegas.
Eustaquio Pelaton.	Dominico Erantes.
Juan Barselon.	J. E. Sepulveda.

Citizen JOSÉ ANTONIO GODOY,
Mexican Consul in San Francisco.

[Enclosure No. 9.—From the New York Times, June 29, 1866.]

The case of the alleged swindle on Santa Anna.—Argument of the motion to discharge the defendants from arrest.—Was there an attempt in this city to fit out an expedition against Maximilian?

SUPREME COURT—SPECIAL TERM, JUNE 28—BEFORE JUSTICE GROVER.

Wm. J. Taylor *et al. vs.* L. Martin Montgomery and A. H. Canedo.—This case, some of the particulars of which have been already published, came up yesterday on a motion made by the defendants to be discharged from an order of arrest. The additional developments appear from the papers read on the argument by counsel on either side. Mr. Jerome Buck, for plaintiffs, appeared

to oppose the motion, and Mr. P. Y. Cutler for the defendants. The defendants, it may be remarked, were, immediately after their arrest in this city, sent to Ludlow street jail, being unable to procure the necessary bail. Their counsel now makes the motion that they ought to be discharged for the reasons stated in the following papers, and from these the public will learn the cause of the arrest and the reasons why they are detained.

Wm. J. Taylor, plaintiff, being sworn, testifies that the cause of this action is as follows: Upon several occasions in the months of March and April, 1866, at the city of New York, the said Montgomery and Canedo deceitfully and falsely represented to deponent that they, the said Montgomery and Canedo, had been duly accredited and appointed the agents of one Gen. D. A. L. de Santa Anna, then residing at the island of St. Thomas, West Indies, to procure and purchase in the United States, for and on behalf of said Santa Anna, a large steamer, &c., and to deliver the same to said Santa Anna at said island of St. Thomas; and said Montgomery and Canedo further exhibited and gave to deponent a written statement (drawn up by themselves) of the authorities and powers conferred on them by said Santa Anna, as his agents, which deponent has lost or mislaid, and which deponent alleges was in every respect false and deceitful, and offered with the intent to deceive this deponent. The said Montgomery and Canedo deceitfully represented to deponent that, under the authority and power possessed by them as aforesaid, they wished to purchase a steamer belonging to him and others, called the Agnes, which they desired should be taken by him to the island of St. Thomas, and there delivered to one Phillips, the resident agent of said Santa Anna, and that then and there said Santa Anna would pay deponent the sum of one hundred thousand dollars in gold. Deponent wholly relying on the false and fraudulent representations made by said Montgomery and Canedo, entered into a written agreement with them, the provisions of which are as follows:

"This agreement, made and entered into on the 10th day of April, 1866, in the city of New York, by and between William J. Taylor, of Philadelphia, United States, managing owner of the steamer Agnes, party of the first part, and Louis M. Montgomery and Andrew H. Canedo, both of the city of New York, agents for and in behalf of D. A. L. de Santa Anna, parties of the second part. Whereas, for the hereinafter named consideration, the parties of the first part have sold, and do hereby sell, the steamer Agnes, of Philadelphia, with all of her tackle, furniture, &c., to the said parties of the second part, for the sum of $100,000 in gold, payable on her delivery to G. W. Phillips, merchant, in St. Thomas, for the use and benefit of parties of the second part; and it is agreed by the parties of the second part that they will well and truly pay or cause to be paid to the parties of the first part the sum of $100,000 in gold on the arrival of said steamer in St. Thomas, or as soon thereafter as the transfer can be made; and in case of default of payment, they, the parties of the second part, shall well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, to the parties of the first part the sum of $20,000 in gold, in St. Thomas, as damages. And it is further agreed by the parties of the second part that they will pay or cause to be paid to the parties of the first part, for all surplus coal or stores that may remain on said steamer at the time of her transfer in St. Thomas, at the market rates in St. Thomas. And it is further agreed that the parties of the second part shall, in case of the discharge of the crew of said steamer in St. Thomas, pay to the parties of the first part the amount lawfully due said crew upon their discharge, less the amount due to them upon arrival in St. Thomas."

That said engagement was duly executed by the parties of the first and second parts, and delivered by said parties of the second part to this deponent, party of the first part. That in pursuance of said agreement, and relying upon the said statements and representations of said Montgomery and Canedo, that they were the authorized agents of said Santa Anna to purchase a vessel for

him, deponent furnished said steamer Agnes with the necessary officers, crew, engineers, provisions, coal, and stores, at great expense, to wit, $15,000, and sailed for said island of St. Thomas on 14th April, 1866. That on the 24th of April, 1866, the said steamer and deponent arrived at said island, and, in pursuance of the contract aforesaid, made a tender of said steamer to said Phillips for said Santa Anna; the said Phillips tendered the same to said Santa Anna, who declined receiving said vessel, and denied that said Montgomery and Canedo were ever his agents, nor were they authorized by him or by any person to purchase for him a vessel or anything else in the United States or elsewhere. That thereupon deponent returned with said steamer Agnes to the United States, and deponent has since ascertained that this denial of authority is true, and deponent states that the said Montgomery and Canedo were not, and they knew they were not, at any time authorized to act on behalf of said Santa Anna, and their representations on that behalf were utterly false, and made by them to deceive deponent. That said deponent, through the false, deceitful representations of said Montgomery and Canedo, was induced to pay out and expend the sum of $15,000 in furnishing said ship as aforesaid, and in making said voyage to St. Thomas and the return to the United States. The said statements and representations of said Montgomery and Canedo deponent has now discovered to be, and alleges to be, false in each and every particular, and they were so known to be to said Montgomery and Canedo, and were used and held forth by them solely to deceive deponent and to induce deponent to enter into the agreement aforesaid, and to incur the heavy expenditure hereinbefore mentioned. That by the fraudulent and deceitful practices of said Montgomery and Canedo he has been damaged $20,000, to recover which the action aforesaid is to be brought. And deponent finally says that he is informed and believes that said Montgomery and Canedo are not residents of this State; that said Montgomery was late an officer in the confederate army and chief of staff of General Lee, and that Canedo is a resident of Texas.

J. H. TAYLOR.

Affidavits were also made by several other parties, to wit, the defendants, Montgomery and Canedo, Solon Dike, Thos. J. Rice, J. W. Robinson, in behalf of the motion.

Mr. Dike testified in substance that he had a conversation with Santa Anna, at the island of St. Thomas, in November last; that Santa Anna then told him that he was desirous of returning to Mexico to assist in driving out Maximilian and establishing a republic there, but that an order was still in force prohibiting him from coming to the United States. If that order could be annulled and he be allowed to cross the Rio Grande he could, with the aid of 1,000 Americans, drive Maximilian out of the country. He also said that if deponent could help him he should be amply remunerated. On Mr. Dike's return to New York he communicated with Montgomery, and they agreed to work together in relation to the matter. Deponent further states that it was fully understood and agreed between Santa Anna and himself that he (Dike) should do all he could in the matter, and also get others to co-operate with him. Santa Anna delivered to him certain proclamations addressed to the Mexicans, which he desired to be distributed.

Andrew H. Canedo, one of the defendants, deposed that on or about the 5th of March last he attended a meeting at Mr. Mazanres's residence, No. 101 West Twentieth street, and that while there Mr. Montgomery and Mazanres produced letters from Santa Anna, which were read and interpreted by Mr. Baiz; and further, that Mazanres represented himself as the commissioner of Santa Anna, and had received ample powers to act as such, and that Baiz was in his confidence and would act for him; that Mazanres and Baiz expressed their desire to purchase a steamer for Santa Anna, for the purpose of bringing him to the

United States; that it was arranged to purchase the steamer with Montgomery, the drafts to be drawn on Santa Anna for $100,000, payable in gold. The deponent called on Mr. Baiz, who stated that he could represent Mr. Mazanres, and informed him that an arrangement had been made with a banking-house to negotiate said drafts on the commissioner, showing his authority, and that Mr. Baiz said he would have the commissioner at his office next day.

Deponent further saith that a Mr. Billerton assisted him in negotiating the drafts, and had also called on Mr. Baiz, and stated that one of the banking firms could speak Spanish, and would be pleased to see Mr. Mazanres and examine his authority as a commissioner, in strict confidence, and if satisfactory advance the money; that when he (Billerton) stated this to Baiz and Mazanres, they replied they did not wish to expose the authority, intimating thereby that the said powers were either to violate the neutrality law, or do some other illegal or unwarrantable act, which they desired that no other person should see or examine.

The following affidavit made by General Santa Anna was read by Mr. Buck in opposition to the motion to discharge:

CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK, *ss:*

Antonio L. de Santa Anna being duly sworn, says: I am not acquainted with the parties to this action. I met Canedo on the 24th of April last at St. Thomas. I have never authorized Montgomery, Canedo, or anybody else to purchase a vessel for me. In the brief correspondence I have had with Montgomery and Canedo I never authorized Montgomery or Canedo to do anything for me, but, to the contrary, I wrote I never wanted their services; Montgomery and Canedo made offers to me of all sorts of impossible helps, and so foolish and exaggerated that they were the dreams of madmen, and I declined them all and peremptorily.

A. L. DE SANTA ANNA.

Sworn to before me this 27th day of June, 1866.

JOHN McCLUSKY,
Commissioner of Deeds.

Mr. Buck also read several other affidavits and some letters, which we have not space to print, all tending to show that the defendants had been guilty of gross fraud in the purchase of the steamer Agnes, for the sum of $100,000 in gold, from the plaintiff, Taylor, on the pretence that they were regularly authorized agents of Santa Anna, and purchased the vessel for him and at his request.

At the conclusion of the argument all the papers in the case were handed up to the court. Decision reserved.

For plaintiff, Jerome Buck; for defendants, P. Y. Cutler, esq.

[Enclosure No. 10.—From the New York Herald, July 17, 1866.]

SUPERIOR COURT—CHAMBERS—BEFORE JUDGE McCUNN.

July 16.—Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna *vs.* Abraham Baiz and Jacob Baiz.—An action was commenced on Saturday last in the superior court of this city, by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna against Abraham Baiz and Jacob Baiz, for the recovery of thirteen thousand dollars, the proceeds of four bills of exchange on London, which had been left with A. Baiz & Co., to be sold, and the proceeds delivered to the owner of the bills. The firm of A. Baiz & Co., consisting of Abraham Baiz and his son, Jacob Baiz, had been highly recommended to the general as men of integrity and responsibility; and thus highly recommended, the general was importuned by A. Baiz & Co. to allow them to

sell his bills of exchange. This firm, having made the sale and received thereon for the general about thirteen thousand dollars, suggested to him, when they were asked for the proceeds, that he leave the money in their hands, as it would be extremely unsafe, in view of the many burglaries being committed in the city, for him to keep so much money in his house. The general, deeming the suggestion an honest one, deferred drawing his money until a few days ago, when he sent his son to the house of A. Baiz & Co. to get the money. The firm thereupon refused to pay over the $13,000, or any part of it, to General Santa Anna. On this state of facts, on Saturday last, an action was commenced by General Santa Anna, in the superior court of this city, against Abraham Baiz and Jacob Baiz, in which action Judge McCunn granted an order of arrest, directing that the defendants be arrested and held to bail in the sum of $15,000. In pursuance of this order, the sheriff yesterday morning arrested Abraham Baiz and his son Jacob, and held them to answer in the above sum.

[Enclosure No. 11.—From the New York Herald, July 18, 1866.]

To the Editor of the Herald:

We notice, among the law reports of your morning edition, a statement of the arrest of A. Baiz & Son, at the suit of General Santa Anna, springing out of certain drafts alleged to be placed in their hands. We suppose they owe this publicity to the fact that they have had business dealings with Santa Anna. But as the publication is but an *ex parte* statement, and reflects upon their mercantile standing and integrity, contrary to the course usually adopted by us not to notice such publications, we beg leave to state that, upon the trial of the action, Baiz & Son will show and maintain that General Santa Anna was largely indebted to them in an amount exceeding the amount of the drafts mentioned, and which he has recognized as correct, and promised to pay; and after crediting the proceeds of the drafts, there still remains a very considerable balance due to them.

BEEBE, DEAN & DONOHUE,
Attorneys for A. Baiz & Son.

NEW YORK, *July* 17, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 12.—From the New York Herald, August 28, 1866.]

SANTA ANNA'S LITIGATIONS—SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS—BEFORE JUDGE BARNARD.

An order of arrest against Señor Dario Mazuera.—He is lodged in the Ludlow street jail.—Affidavit of General Santa Anna.—Interesting statements.—The plot thickening, &c.

Our readers no doubt remember the many accounts that have appeared in our columns lately in regard to the adventures of General Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, growing out of the numerous suits and counter-suits that have been commenced in our courts of law. We are again called upon to chronicle another phase in the affair, his honor Judge Barnard having yesterday granted an order of arrest, at the suit of General Santa Anna, against his late private secretary, Señor Dario Mazuera, founded upon the following affidavit of the general:

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, being duly sworn, says that he is the plaintiff herein, and resides at No. 8 West Twenty-eighth street, New York; that the defendant is a resident of St. Thomas, West Indies, and is temporarily staying in

this city; that prior to the 12th day of December, 1865, the defendant applied to the plaintiff at St. Thomas for permission to proceed to the United States in behalf of the interest of Mexico, as represented by the plaintiff, to confer with the government of the United States in reference to certain business connected with the interest of Mexico, stating and representing that he was able and competent to accomplish the transactions of said business, and did then and there importune the plaintiff to give him, said Mazuera, some paper writing accrediting him as a proper person to whom faith and confidence could be given; that on or about the 12th of December, 1865, the plaintiff did give said Mazuera a paper writing, whereby said Mazuera was permitted by the plaintiff to proceed to the United States and confer with the government thereof in relation to the business contemplated, but when said Mazuera arrived in the United States he did not make any effort to confer with the government thereof in behalf of the matters set forth in the said instrument given him by the plaintiff, as aforesaid, but, on the contrary, in violation of the power and authority conferred on him by the plaintiff, and intending to cheat and defraud this plaintiff, and in violation of the trust and confidence reposed in him by the plaintiff, he, the said Dario Mazuera, and one Abraham Baiz, with the intent to cheat and defraud the plaintiff, did combine, confederate, and conspire together, at the city of New York, to deceive, cheat, and defraud, and did deceive, cheat, and defraud, the plaintiff in the following manner, viz: On or about the 7th day of April, 1866, the said Baiz represented and pretended to be the owner of the steamship Georgia, lying at the port of New York, and as such pretended owner of said steamer, on or about the last day aforesaid, did fraudulently, deceitfully, and with the intent and design to cheat and defraud the plaintiff, make a pretended sale to him, and the said Dario Mazuera, well knowing that the said Baiz was not the owner of said steamship, did pretend to purchase of the said Baiz the said steamship Georgia, for and on account of this plaintiff, for the sum of $250,000; whereupon the said Baiz executed and delivered to said Mazuera, as the pretended agent of said plaintiff, a bill of sale of said steamship, to be delivered to the plaintiff at St. Thomas, West Indies; and the said Mazuera, well knowing that Baiz was not the owner of said steamship, accepted from said Baiz the said bill of sale, and then and there delivered to said Baiz seventeen bills of exchange, to which the said Dario Mazuera fraudulently and without authority signed the name of the plaintiff; that said bills of exchange were drawn to the order of said Mazuera, and indorsed by him were delivered to said Baiz.

That in and by said pretended bill of sale it was stated, as a covenant of the plaintiff, that in case the bills of exchange should not be accepted at sight, and should be protested for non-acceptance, the said plaintiff would pay the said Baiz the sum of $100,000 liquidating damages, and the said bills of exchange should remain in the hands of said Baiz as collateral security for the payment of said $100,000. Deponent further says, that afterwards the said Baiz, with the knowledge and consent of the said Mazuera, did freight the said steamship at the port of New York, and proceeded to the port of St. Thomas, West Indies, where the plaintiff was then temporarily residing, and on their arrival the said Baiz called on this plaintiff and informed him of the said sale of the said steamship, and at the same time exhibited to the plaintiff the said bills of exchange, and desired the plaintiff to accept the same, whereupon the plaintiff informed said Baiz that the said Mazuera had no power or authority from the plaintiff to negotiate for or purchase the said steamship, or to sign any bills of exchange in the name of the plaintiff, and that he, the plaintiff, would not accept said steamship or ratify or confirm the said bill of sale.

Deponent further says that the said Baiz and Mazuera, still combining, conspiring, and confederating together to cheat and defraud this plaintiff, then and there stated and represented to the plaintiff that he, (Mazuera,) while in the

United States, had succeeded in obtaining a loan from various parties in the United States, and from the government thereof, of $30,000,000; that the same was to be increased to $50,000,000, to be used in the interest of the Mexican people, and that $30,000,000 was then on deposit in the city of New York, ready to be placed at the disposal of the plaintiff, to be used by him and those assisting him in behalf of the interests of the Mexican people, and at the same time exhibited to the plaintiff a letter purporting to have been written by Hon. William H. Seward, Secretary of State at Washington, advising the plaintiff to come at once to the United States, and that the government thereof was ready, willing, and anxious to aid him in his efforts in behalf of the Mexican people, and that any assistance required by the plaintiff in that behalf would be furnished him by the government of the United States, and that he should lose no time in quitting St. Thomas for the United States for the purpose of immediately entering upon his undertaking.

Deponent further says that the said Baiz and Mazuera further represented that said steamer had been purchased for the interests of the Mexican people, and that the said bills of exchange could be paid from the fund or loan of thirty millions then on deposit as aforesaid, and that the plaintiff individually could not be responsible or incur any liability by accepting the said bills, and that if plaintiff refused to accept the said bill or ratify the said sale of said steamship, that the said Baiz would be put to great expense, loss, and damage, and would be pecuniarily ruined; and deponent, believing the said representations of the said Biaz and Mazuera, and that the said sum of thirty millions was then on deposit in the city of New York as aforesaid, and believing the letter exhibited as aforesaid to be a true and genuine letter, the plaintiff accepted the said bills of exchange and delivered them to the said Baiz, conditioned that they should be paid from the said loan of thirty millions; that subsequently the said Baiz, with the knowledge and assent of the said Mazuera, stated and represented to the plaintiff that he (Baiz) had a payment to make at St. Thomas on account of the purchase of said steamship of $40,000 in gold, and that he did not have the necessary means to meet said payment, and desired the plaintiff to let him have the said sum of $40,000 to meet said payment, and that he would return the same when they arrived at New York; and believing said statement to be true, the plaintiff gave to the said Baiz certain notes made by parties in favor of plaintiff, payable in gold, and which were perfectly good, amounting in the aggregate to the sum of $35,260, which the said Baiz accepted for the purpose aforesaid.

Deponent further says that subsequently the said Mazuera assisted in the freighting of said steamer for New York, and that plaintiff took passage on said steamer; that on his arrival, at the earnest solicitation of said Baiz, the plaintiff went to the house of said Baiz at Elizabethport, New Jersey, and remained there for nearly one month; that the said Baiz and Mazuera professed great friendship for the plaintiff, and often asserted and reiterated the statements and representations hereinbefore mentioned; but that just before the plaintiff left the house of said Baiz he ascertained that said steamship did not belong to and was not owned by said Baiz, and that he had no power to sell or convey said steamship, and that he had no payment to make at St. Thomas of $40,000; and that each and every statement made by said Baiz as to the purchase of said steamer were false and untrue, and were made with the knowledge and consent of said Mazuera, and were known by the said Mazuera to be false and untrue, and were made with the intent and design to deceive, cheat, and defraud this plaintiff; and that the statements of said Baiz and Mazuera that the defendant had obtained a loan of $30,000,000, and that the same was then on deposit in the city of New York, were also false and untrue, and had no foundation in fact, but were made with the intent to induce the plaintiff to accept the said bills of exchange for the sum of $250,000; that at the time the said loan was said to

have been obtained not one shilling had been obtained or received by the defendant, as he had represented.

This deponent further says that the said letter exhibited by the defendant, purporting to have been written by the Hon. Wm. H. Seward, was not a letter of the said Wm. H. Seward at all, but written and concocted by the defendant and said Baiz, and that all the representations made by said defendant and Baiz were false and untrue, and that said letter was a forgery, and known by said defendants to be so.

Deponent further says that said Baiz and Mazuera, conspiring, combining, and confederating together, did charter the said steamship of Messrs. Williams & Guion, for the sum of $10,000, to go to the port of St. Thomas, West Indies, and that said Baiz freighted said vessel under said charter, and proceeded with said vessel, accompanied by said Mazuera, to St. Thomas, where the said Mazuera falsely and fraudulently reported to various parties, other than the plaintiff, that the said Baiz was the owner of said steamer.

Deponent further says that said Baiz, from St. Thomas to New York, brought on said vessel a valuable freight, and, as the plaintiff is informed and believes, received for the freight of said steamship to and from St. Thomas, West Indies, upwards of $15,000.

Deponent further says that the said Baiz admitted to the plaintiff, as did also the said Mazuera, that the said Baiz at St. Thomas paid to the captain of said steamer Georgia, as charter money and other expenses, the sum of $13,000 and upwards, and that this sum was realized from a portion of the said notes of $35,260 given said Baiz by the plaintiff at St. Thomas.

Deponent further says that when the said Baiz and Mazuera returned to New York they had in their possession the said bills of exchange for $250,000 and the said notes of $35,260, and being so in possession of said bills and notes, they delivered the said steamship to the owners, Messrs. Williams & Guion, at the city of New York, and also gave Messrs. Williams & Guion a portion of said bills of exchange, amounting to the sum of $80,000; and that the said Williams & Guion, with a knowledge of the pretended sale of the said Georgia to the plaintiff, accepted and received from the said defendant the said bills of exchange; and that the defendant has surrendered to the plaintiff the balance of said bills of exchange, amounting to $170,000, but still retains the notes, amounting to $35,260; and that Messrs. Williams & Guion admitted to deponent that they had possession of said steamship, and were the owners thereof, and that they had received the said bills of exchange; and the plaintiff then requested that said bills be surrendered to him, which said Williams & Guion refused to do, except on condition that the plaintiff would give them his promissory note at ninety days for the sum of $25,000 and collateral security for its payment, which plaintiff was compelled to, and did so; that all of the representations and statements of the said Mazuera and Baiz were false and untrue, and that plaintiff has sustained damages by reason thereof to the extent of at least $70,000, and asks that the defendant may be arrested and dealt with according to law.

A. L. DE STA. ANNA.

Sworn to before me this 25th day of August, 1866.

ADFRED T. ACKERT, *Notary Public.*

The affidavit is very voluminous, but above we have given its principal features. Annexed to the affidavit is a supplemental statement by the general in regard to the card published in our columns a few days ago, wherein he fully exonerated Mr. Mazuera, the general now alleging that said statement was obtained from him under a misrepresentation of the facts of the case.

Mr. Mazuera was last evening arrested by Deputy Sheriff McGonegal, and in default of bail in the sum of $80,000, committed to the Ludlow street jail.

THE MONTGOMERY SUIT.

August 27.—Montgomery *vs.* Santa Anna.—In this case an order of arrest was granted against defendant on application of plaintiff. The particulars of this suit have already been published in the Herald. A motion is now made to set aside the order of arrest, and the argument in the case has been set down for to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

[Enclosure No. 13.—From the New York Herald, August 29, 1866.]

SANTA ANNA'S LITIGATIONS—SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS—BEFORE JUDGE BARNARD.

The Montgomery case.—Another postponement.

August 28.—Montgomery *vs.* Santa Anna.—This case was called on at twelve o'clock to-day for argument. A motion is now made to vacate the order of arrest issued some days since at the instance of the plaintiff against General Santa Anna on the ground that he was a non-resident of the State of New York. Montgomery makes a claim against the general for the modest sum of $60,000 for services rendered as the alleged agent of Santa Anna. The general was required to give bail in the sum of $75,000, which was afterwards reduced to $30,000. Mr. H. Daily, counsel for General Santa Anna, now moves to vacate the order of arrest on the ground that the general never employed or authorized the employment of Montgomery in any manner whatever. The motion came on for hearing several days ago; but, on the application of Mr. Peter T. Cutler, counsel for Montgomery, it has been postponed from time to time until yesterday, when it came up again for argument. Mr. Cutler answered that he was not ready to proceed, and asked the court to allow the motion to stand over. Mr. Daily strenuously opposed the application for a further postponement of the matter, on the ground that General Santa Anna was very anxious to have the questions presented by this action reviewed by the court, and that he had in every instance been ready and anxious to proceed, but had invariably been met by a motion to postpone by the counsel for plaintiff.

The court finally set the matter down for hearing at ten o'clock on Saturday next.

STATEMENT FROM MAZUERA.

General Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna has published the following card:

"The undersigned would inform the public that Don Dario Mazuera has not held, nor does he now hold, any authority to engage in any way whatever the personal responsibility of the undersigned in any contract, note, or engagement whatsoever. Having been informed that said Don Dario Mazuera is attempting (in virtue of a commission intrusted to him for a purpose very distinct from that of making private contracts) to injure the undersigned, notice is hereby given that not only the invalidity of said acts will be maintained, but the undersigned will likewise assert his rights and have the full rigor of the laws extended to those who seek to injure and annoy him in so unwarrantable a manner.

"A. L. DE SANTA ANNA."

Much against my will I am forced to contradict—though I shall do so in a clear and succinct manner—the above assertions of General Santa Anna, by publishing herewith the full powers which he conferred on me at St. Thomas, under date of December 12, last year. I have, moreover, in my possession a letter in the same gentleman's own handwriting, which was delivered to me only a few hours before my departure from that island, and which treats of this same

subject, and confirms the confidence which was reposed in me. I will not publish said letter because of its confidential and private character. If I have committed grave errors I have frankly avowed them, without attempting to escape the responsibility that fell upon me by reason of such errors; nor did I seek to cloak myself with a veil of hypocrisy, as has been done by others whom I may justly stigmatize as corrupt and depraved.

DARIO MAZUERA.

NEW YORK, *August* 24, 1866.

"*Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, general of division in the Mexican army, &c.:*

"By these presents I give full powers to Colonel Don Dario Mazuera, (in whose talents and good character I have the greatest confidence,) in order that he may be enabled to develop all my ideas, thoughts, and desires before the government of the United States of America, concerning the aid of which I stand in need in order to be able to liberate my country from the yoke of her oppressors. The critical position in which the Mexican nation is at present placed demands that all her sons make extraordinary efforts and great sacrifices. Although exiled from my native soil through French tyranny, still I am anxious to do all in my power in order to prove to my fellow-countrymen that their misfortunes are not unheeded by me. Colonel Mazuera will understand how to set forth, with his habitual discretion, my reasons for having recourse to the government at Washington in order to obtain the aid which only that government can readily afford. The said Colonel Mazuera is fully authorized to make agreement as to the guarantees requisite in order to secure the payment of whatever costs and expenses may be incurred for this aid, which I solicit with the most lively earnestness and ardor. The Mexican nation will in due time, through its legal organs, recognize this debt, and will pay it with religious exactitude, while its gratitude will be everlasting for the service thus rendered. But if, unfortunately, the government of the United States should refuse, from any motive whatever, to lend me its protection, in such case Colonel Mazuera shall endeavor to make an arrangement with some portion of the mercantile community of said nation for the recruiting of two or three thousand armed men, (after having first obtained permission from the local authorities,) as well as for the purchase of the vessels necessary to transport such a body of men to a point on the Mexican coast which I shall indicate in due time. Colonel Mazuera may show these instructions in such cases as he may find it advantageous to do so, seeing that he is my representative—my own person, in fact, in this affair with which he is intrusted. However, he is to bear in mind that he must bestow upon any Mexican soldiers that may be recruited the position for which they may be respectively fitted; for it would be very pleasing to me should such true patriots be brought to my ranks by extending to them any assistance that may be possible. I confide to Colonel Mazuera's discretion the subject of engaging in our favor some of the leading organs of the press, in order to secure the publication of suitable articles in favor of our enterprise, even though for this purpose it should become necessary to make pecuniary sacrifices. It shall be his duty to visit General Grant, in whose hands he will place the letter which he has received for that general, and shall endeavor to convince him of the advantage it would be to all of us who profess republican principles were he to contribute his powerful influence towards securing the patriotic object which I have in view. As Colonel Mazuera is sufficiently well informed, and understands thoroughly the important charge with which he is intrusted, I leave to his own deliberation the arrangement of many details which he will understand how to work out according as occasions present themselves, for I am inspired with this much confidence in the ability, honor,

loyalty, and Americanism of said Señor Mazuera. For the reasons set forth above, I recognize, approve, and confirm as valid, from this moment, the acts which Señor Mazuera may perform while in the discharge of this mission, in order to secure the successful issue of the same.

"In testimony whereof I set my hand to these presents.

"Done at the island of St. Thomas this 12th day of December, 1865.

"A. L. DE SANTA ANNA."

[Enclosure No. 14.—From the New York Herald, September 2, 1866.]

MORE OF SANTA ANNA'S LITIGATIONS.—SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS—BEFORE JUDGE BARNARD.

The Montgomery case.—Motion to vacate an order of arrest against Santa Anna.

September 1.—L. M. Montgomery *vs.* A. L. de Santa Anna.—Plaintiff in this case claims to have acted as the agent of General Santa Anna in the organization of an expedition to convert the Mexican empire and establish a republic instead. The authority for this agency he alleges to have received through Señor Dario Mazuera and Mr. Solon Dike, who claim to have been the directly accredited agents of Santa Anna for the same purposes. Mazuera is at present confined in the Ludlow street jail, under a suit instituted against him by the general for some $80,000.

The material points in the affidavits and the statements on both sides have already been published in the Herald.

In the present suit Montgomery seeks to get $25,000 for services rendered, and under this claim procured an order of arrest against the general, in which the latter was held to bail in the sum of $30,000. A motion to vacate this order of arrest was made yesterday.

Mr. Peter T. Cutler appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. H. Daily for defendant.

Mr. Cutler opened the argument, and alluded to the character of the affidavits on the other side. The main question to be determined was upon the agency. Montgomery had produced evidence to show his agency in the matter, which facts were merely denied by Santa Anna, without producing contradictory evidence on each material point.

Judge Barnard. There is sufficient in the affidavits to issue an order of arrest.

Mr. Cutler contended that there was not sufficient in the affidavits of defendant to quash the order of arrest. Defendant had not furnished evidence denying any of plaintiff's assertions. There was nothing in the affidavits of his opponents which would authorize him to make a motion to discharge from arrest.

* * * * * * *

The court having decided to hear the case at length, Mr. Daily proceeded to read his affidavits in support of the motion to vacate the order of arrest. He read the affidavit of General Santa Anna, denying that he had given any authority whatever to Montgomery to act as his agent.

Judge Barnard. Does General Santa Anna speak the English language?

Mr. Daily. He does not.

Judge Barnard. Who translated these affidavits for him?

Mr. Daily gave the name of the translator. The gentleman then went on with his reading. The affidavit of Mazuera alleged that he had never at any time employed Montgomery under the authority given by Santa Anna to deponent. Several other affidavits were read, when Mr. Cutler followed in behalf of Montgomery.

Judge Barnard took all the papers in the case and reserved his decision.

[Enclosure No. 15.—From the New York Times, September 5, 1866.]

STILL ANOTHER SUIT—SANTA ANNA'S FATHER IN-LAW ARRESTED.

An order of arrest was granted yesterday by Judge Barnard, of the supreme court, for the apprehension, in a civil suit, of Luis G. de Vidal y Rivas, father-in-law of General Santa Anna. The plaintiff in the action is Emelia Cuppia, owner of a boarding-house in East Forty-first street, this city, who alleges in her affidavits, on which the order of arrest was issued, that defendant, Rivas, is indebted to her in the sum of $355 50, the balance of a board bill. It was furthermore stated that General Santa Anna and the defendant were about leaving this country for Mexico, and that the latter would take with him all his goods and effects; that there was great danger that plaintiff would lose the amount of her claim against him unless the court interfered and granted an order of arrest, holding him to bail in a sum sufficient to fully meet the demand.

No. 119.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 9, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 29th ultimo, containing some correspondence connected with the offer of Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna of his services to your government.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 120.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, November 16, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: In reference to the communication which I addressed to your department on the 29th of September last, relating to Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, I have the honor to transmit to you this day a number of the official paper of the Mexican government, of the 22d of October last, containing various documents on the same subject, and among them a communication addressed to me by Señor Lerdo de Tejada, minister of foreign affairs of the Mexican government, from Chihuahua, the 19th of October last, (No. 476,) approving the terms of the answer I gave to Señor Santa Anna on the 20th September, of which I sent you a copy with my note of the 29th September, before mentioned.

I take advantage of this occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

No. 627.] MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, September 20, 1866.

I have the honor to send you a copy of the reply I made this day to the letter which Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna addressed to me on the 5th instant, and of which I sent you a copy with my communication, No. 623, of yesterday. I informed Señor Santa Anna in my answer that my discussion with him was hereby closed on my part—a discussion he had provoked—and that in future I would answer no further communication from him on the same subject.

In regard to the imputations cast on you, I did not think proper to answer them, but leave them to you to do it if you choose.

I hereby repeat to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Citizen MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, *Chihuahua.*

[Enclosure No. 2.]

No. 476.] DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT,
Chihuahua, October 19, 1866.

The citizen President of the republic has considered your notes numbered 623 and 627, dated the 19th and 20th September last, with which you sent me the copy of a letter that Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna wrote to you, and a copy of your answer to him, in regard to the resolution of the government refusing to accept the offer of his services. As you have given a sufficient answer to the inexact conceptions in the letter of Mr. Santa Anna, it is useless for me to trouble myself about them, in what refers to me and the charges I made in my communication of the 6th July. Moreover, those charges are recorded in the history of the misfortunes of the republic, and are corroborated by facts so generally known that it is idle to dispute them.

Accept the protests of my attentive consideration.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

Citizen MATIAS ROMERO,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
of the Mexican Republic in Washington, D. C.

No. 121.

Señor de Santa Anna to the President.

[Translation.]

ST. THOMAS, *December* 12, 1865.

SIR: Under date of 19th October last, I had the honor to commission Mr. Lisander Lamada to place in your hands a communication, sanctioned by my signature, setting forth my intentions in respect of Mexico, and soliciting some aid from your Excellency as a basis to commence the work of redeeming my country from the yoke which oppresses it.

And now leaving Mr. Lamada in his good repute, I permit myself to commission in his place Colonel Dario Mazuera, meriting my entire confidence, that he may continue the work until the happy result of the undertaking I meditate is achieved, which I shall carry to a fortunate conclusion with the aid which your Excellency may deem fit to place at my disposal. All has been already said in

regard of the danger which threatens republican America in consenting to the existence in her bosom of a throne of European origin, imposed by force and sustained by bayonets.

For this reason I have sought to avoid any preamble, and I enter fully into the question.

The Monroe doctrine, which has been the laughing-stock and scoff of crowned heads during the great domestic strife in the great republic, is now the nightmare of the very princes who believed it to be in the abyss of anarchy, overthrown happily by the government of the Union; and I, who venerate those principles, I, the founder of the Mexican republic, am ready to shed the last drop of my blood in avenging its wrongs, in a holocaust to its honor, independence, and liberty.

Will the heirs of Washington suffer these desires of my heart to be without fruit, by refusing me the aid which I implore with all the energy of my soul? I dare not believe it!

I speak to your Excellency in the name of unhappy Mexico, pledging solemnly her national honor for the fulfilment of the engagements which may take place, in consequenc of the aid with which your Excellency's government may favor me.

Mr. Mazuera will explain to you, confidentially, the class of resources I ask for, and all that he may bargain with your Excellency, in accordance with the contents of this communication, and of the instructions I have placed in his hands, will be recognized and approved by me, in the name of the Mexican republic.

With sentiments of the highest consideration, I have the honor to subscribe myself your most respectful and assured servant,

A. L. DE STA. ANNA.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT
of the United States of America.

[Translation.]

ST. THOMAS, *December* 12, 1865.

SIR: Leaving in his good repute Mr. Lisander Lamada, bearer of the communication which, under date of 19th October last, I had the honor to address to you, I have thought it advisable to commission for the same affair, and with more ample powers, Colonel Dario Mazuera, that he may place in the hands of his Excellency the President of the Union a document sanctioned by my signature, referring to the resolution I have formed to liberate Mexico from foreign domination. Deign, sir, to receive Mr. Mazuera, a person who has my whole confidence, with good will, and give entire faith and credit to all he may say in my name, and may bargain with your government according to the tenor of the instructions which I have placed in his hands. I hope, at the same time, that you will use all your influence in the cabinet to the end that it may lend me the aid which I solicit.

Under the protection of the Almighty, and that I may receive from the government of the United States, I think that very shortly the flag of the republic will be hoisted in all the cities and villages of my beloved country. She will never forget, in the day of triumph, all she will owe to her glorious sister, and will return, with increase, the benefits which may be dispensed to her.

I reiterate to you the expression of high consideration and sincere esteem with which I have the honor to subscribe myself, your faithful and obedient servant,

A. L. DE STA. ANNA.

No. 122.

Señor de Santa Anna to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

ELIZABETHPORT, *May* 21, 1866.

SIR: Upon arriving in the United States of America, accomplishing one of my most constant desires, it is very pleasant to me to fulfil the first of my duties by presenting, in my character of Mexican citizen, the homage of my profound respect to the government of this great and happy nation, and the expression of my particular sympathy towards your Excellency in person, and through your medium to the President of the republic.

Not being able at present, as was my purpose, to go and do this personally, I have commissioned, that they may do so as representing me, my friends Don Abraham Baiz and Colonel Don Dario Mazuera. They will present this letter to your excellency, and be pleased, your excellency, to accept their expressions as my own.

The object of my coming is to place myself in the way of discharging my duty as a Mexican general—to fight against the foreign and despotic government which at this day rules over the capital of my country, and to reinstall in that place the constitutional republican government, by offering for this purpose my services to the eminent patriot Señor Juarez, who is now at its head, and by placing myself under his orders. I consecrated to my country the better part of my life; it has heaped upon me favors and distinctions, and I anxiously desire that my last service may be to fight once more for its independence, and to re-establish the republic which I first proclaimed in 1822; to set the beneficial example of the obedient soldier and disinterested citizen; to reconcile parties for the sake of the whole nation, and to die withdrawn from public affairs and beloved by all my fellow-citizens. Such is now my ambition. I appeal most pressingly to the sympathies of the government of your excellency in behalf of that just cause, asking that it may favor it with its powerful aid, and I hope my conduct may be applauded by your excellency.

In the same sense I write to-day to Mr. Romero, our zealous and patriotic representative.

I have the honor to offer to your excellency the assurance of my highest consideration and personal esteem.

A. L. DE STA. ANNA.

His Excellency WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c.*,
Washington.

No. 123.

Señor Mazuera to Mr. Frederick W. Seward.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *May* 26, 1866.

DEAR SIR: Yesterday afternoon we gave Mr. Chew the letter from General Santa Anna to Mr. Seward, and as to-day we have been absent from the hotel we don't know whether Mr. Chew has come to let us know when we shall present it to Mr. Seward, if there is no objection.

Pray be pleased to let us know what has been your father's decision.

Your very obedient servant,

DARIO MAZUERA.

FREDERICK SEWARD, Esq.

[Memorandum.]

The Secretary will for the present reserve himself in regard to the communication of General Santa Anna. He recognizes, however, the personal kindness of the general. After a time Mr. Seward may recur to the subject.

[Memorandum.]

Colonel Mazuera was informed by me verbally of the foregoing, and he replied that he would have been glad to pay a visit of courtesy to the President and the Secretary of State.

R. S. CHEW.

MAY 26, 1866.

No. 124.

Señor de Santa Anna to Mr. Seward.

NEW YORK, *June* 26, 1866.

His excellency honorable William H. Seward will please receive Captain H. S. Eyting as an envoy on most important business of mutual interests to the two republics, the United States and Mexico.

Captain H. S. Eyting is accredited with full powers to act as if I were present, and I hereby confirm all treaties made by him for myself.

I trust the honorable Secretary of State will discover in the proposals of my envoy cause of great interest and advantage to the United States, and trusting they may meet with favorable attention, I ask for my envoy and the propositions from myself, through him, the heartiest protection.

With sentiments of my most distinguished regard, I am faithfully yours fraternally,

A. L. DE STA. ANNA.

No. 125.

Señor de Santa Anna to Mr. Seward.

NEW YORK, *August* 10, 1866.

DEAR SIR: The political crisis in Mexico has arrived at a climax, and I can no longer remain inactive, and not endeavor to contribute towards the salvation of my country.

While Juarez, Ortega, and the chiefs of various bands are disputing among themselves the right to govern, my unfortunate country is rapidly declining, and from advices lately received, it is certain that Maximilian is contemplating leaving Mexico, in which event the country will most assuredly be plunged into anarchy more terrible than has yet been experienced.

From this destiny I wish to save my country, and assist in the expulsion of the last foreign bayonet; and more than all, I am desirous of securing to Mexico peace, and to protect my countrymen as well as foreigners, and give them an opportunity to select the man by whom they wish to be governed.

Your excellency, while at St. Thomas, encouraged me in my enterprise, and I again repeat that the moment has arrived when it is necessary to act, and all I now require is your support. To this end I have charged Mr. J. N. Lake, of

this city, to hand you this letter, he being a confidential medium through whom to convey my ideas to you, and give you all necessary explanations, and who will have full power and authority from me, duly executed, to negotiate and transact any and all business relative to this matter.

Upon your assistance I rely in this undertaking, when the interests of a sister republic are at stake, and when the time has arrived to strike the decisive blow for the expulsion of foreign intruders and the tyrannical domination of France.

Should we now succeed in our endeavors, and once more see Mexico free and my countrymen reinstate me in the highest position within their gift, it would afford me the greatest pleasure to reciprocate all your kindness, and show my gratitude to your government with a liberal hand.

Should your excellency desire a personal interview with me, I shall be willing to undertake the journey, preserving, of course, all possible privacy during the same.

I have the honor to be your excellency's obedient servant,

A. L. DE STA. ANNA.

His Excellency WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

No. 126.

Mr. Seward to Señor de Santa Anna.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 16, 1866.

The Secretary of State has had the honor to receive from General de Santa Anna, formerly President of Mexico, a communication in which he states that he wishes to visit Washington, and that he would be pleased to know if he will be received as a private gentleman by the Secretary of State.

The distinguished gentleman is hereby informed that insomuch as his attitude towards the republican government of Mexico, with which the United States maintain diplomatic intercourse, is pronounced by the President of Mexico to be unfriendly towards the government of the republic, a reception of the general in any character, at the present time, by the Secretary of State, would be incompatible with the settled practice and habits of the executive department of the United States.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

DON ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA, *New York.*

No. 127.

Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, jr., to Mr. Seward.

NEW YORK, *November* 7, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I am the nephew of Santa Anna, the Mexican general, and as his only relative now near him, am bound in all duty and conscience to see that he suffers no harm from designing persons. I have sufficient grounds to make me believe that the general is not faithfully served, and that in consequence of trusting to representations urged upon him, he may lose not only his reputation and his fortune, but even more—his life, in a mistaken enterprise. I, therefore, am driven to take this liberty of addressing myself to you; and I beg you, not as minister of state, but upon your generous instincts as a man ready to aid a fellow-man, to tell me (if it may be done without detriment to the public in-

terests) whether the United States government is treating with my uncle, the general, in reference to Mexico. The general believes, and is acting under the belief, that such a treaty exists between himself and the government, but I do not believe that he, in person, has ever met an accredited agent of the government; and therefore it is that I pray you for such an answer to this my respectful inquiry as may enable me to disabuse his mind and save him from dangers to which his present ill-advised course must expose him.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA, JR.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

I have requested an American gentleman to write this letter, at my dictation, because of my not being familiar with the language; and I add this note, that a letter addressed to Mr. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, jr., at New York post office, will reach me.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA, JR.

No. 128.

Mr. Seward to Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, jr.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 8, 1866.

SIR: I have received your letter of yesterday, representing yourself to be the nephew of General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, formerly President of the Mexican republic; that you have reason to believe that the government is not faithfully served, but that, owing to improper influences, he may lose his reputation, his fortune, and even his life, in a mistaken enterprise. You then ask me if this government is treating with the general upon the subject of Mexico.

In reply I have to inform you that this government has not recognized any other Mexican authority, or held correspondence or entered into negotiations, with any other, than that of President Don Benito Juarez.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA, Jr., *New York.*

No. 129.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Courtney.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 8, 1866.

SIR: I enclose the original of a letter addressed to me by a person signing himself Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, and, as you will see, claiming to be a nephew of the general of that name. My reply to the same is also enclosed. It is desired that you should ascertain whether or not there is such a person as the writer of the letter. If there should be, the answer may be posted. If there should not be any such person, I will thank you to return the letter and the reply to this department.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

SAMUEL G. COURTNEY, Esq.,
Attorney of the United States for the Southern District of New York.

No. 130.

Mr. Courtney to Mr. Seward.

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THE UNITED STATES
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK,
New York, November 14, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, on the 11th instant, of your favor of the 8th instant, respecting the enclosures, &c., of a letter to be posted to Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, jr.

After making diligent inquiry I ascertained there is such a person as mentioned in your letter, and he is represented to be the nephew of Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. I have, in accordance with your instructions, deposited in the post office of New York the letter you enclosed, directed "Señor Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, jr., New York." I enclose herewith the documents mailed to me, excepting the letter above referred to.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL G. COURTNEY,
United States Attorney.

Hon. W. H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

No. 131.

Mr. Seward to Señor de Santa Anna.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 8, 1866.

SIR: I am directed by the President of the United States to acknowledge the receipt by him of the letter of the 30th of November last, which letter you described as unofficial and private. The letter concerns the republic of Mexico, and affects the relations between that republic and the United States. The practice of the government requires that executive correspondence involving foreign affairs shall be conducted on behalf of the government in the customary diplomatic manner by recognized and responsible official agents, and that it shall be always registered and recorded for national information and uses. It is equally a practice of the government to hold correspondence in regard to the affairs of a friendly foreign republic exclusively with the government of that republic which is recognized by the United States, and never with persons whom such foreign government pronounces to be hostile. Under these circumstances you will perceive that the correspondence which you have opened cannot be continued.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM. H. SEWARD.

DON ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA,
New Brighton, Staten Island, New York.

No. 8.

GENERAL ORTEGA'S CASE.

List of papers.

132. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with nine enclosures)..... Oct. 31, 1866.
133. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero..... Nov. 13, 1866.

134. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with seven enclosures)..... Dec. 8, 1866
135. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero..... Dec. 17, 1866.
136. Mr. Stanton to Mr. Seward, (with six enclosures)..... Dec. 8, 1866.

No. 132.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, October 31, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: Learning by the papers of this country that General Jesus Gonzalez Ortega is in New Orleans, on his way to Mexico, where he is going, as he says himself, to excite an insurrection in his own favor, to usurp the public power, and styles himself "constitutional President of the Mexican republic" in communications addressed to the United States military authorities in that city, I think proper to transmit to you, for the information of the government of the United States, various documents, some from General Ortega himself, showing the specious arguments he makes use of to prove he has a right to style himself President of Mexico.

I am pleased to accept the occasion to repeat to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c*

Index of documents sent by the Mexican legation in Washington to the Department of State of the United States, with the note of this date, relative to the conduct of Don Jesus Gonzalez de Ortega.

No.	Date.	Contents.
	1865.	
1	Dec. 26	First pamphlet published in New York by Don Jesus Gonzalez Ortega, containing his protest against the decrees of the 8th of November last, (December 21,) and his address to the nation on that subject, (December 26.)
	1866.	
2	April 30	Circular of the department of foreign relations and government of the republic of Mexico in reply to the foregoing protest and address.
3	Mar. 10	Second pamphlet published in New York by Don Jesus Gonzalez Ortega, containing letters of the nine persons who are disposed to aid him in the effort to provoke sedition in Mexico.
4	April 4	Answer to the foregoing pamphlet containing replies to Don Jesus Gonzalez Ortega, by Mexicans residing in the United States to whom he asked their opinion about the expediency of the decrees of the 8th of November, 1865.
5	June 30	Another replication to Don J. G. Ortega's pamphlets, containing the opinion of several Mexicans now in armed defence of their country, in favor of the decrees of the 8th of November last.
6	June 5	Reply of the official paper of the Mexican republic to Don Jesus Gonzalez Ortega's second pamphlet.
7	Sept. 14	Article from the official paper of the Mexican republic, containing various letters intercepted from Don Jesus G. Ortega and Don Guillermo Prieto.
8	Sept. 22	Article from the official paper containing documents on the same subject.

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

WASHINGTON, *October* 31, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

DECREES OF BENITO JUAREZ.

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT—DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT—SECTION FIRST.

The citizen President of the republic has seen fit to issue the following decree:

Benito Juarez, constitutional President of the United States of Mexico, to the inhabitants thereof:

Be it known, that in exercise of the plenary powers conferred upon me by the national congress, through its decrees of December 11, 1861, of May 3 and of October 27, 1863; and whereas,

Firstly. In articles 78, 79, 80, and 82 of the federal constitution, treating of the period of the functions of the President of the republic, and of the manner of his substitution, provision has been made for a new election of a President, but which, in fact, has not been verified, inasmuch as said provision did not anticipate existence of a state of war, such as the present; and, moreover, as the enemy at the present moment occupies a great portion of the national territory, it is impossible for a general election to be constitutionally held at the ordinary periods.

Secondly. That in those articles of the constitution providing for a substitute for the President of the republic in the event of a vacancy, it was provided to confide the executive power of the presidency to the president of the supreme court of justice, to act in the only case foreseen, during the interim, until a new election could be had according to the constitution.

Thirdly. Inasmuch as it is impossible for an election to be held on account of the war, and as the president of the supreme court, were he to enter upon exercise of the functions of the executive office, would do so for an indefinite period of time, it becomes necessary to extend his powers beyond the limit prescribed by a literal construction of the constitution.

Fourthly. That by the supreme law of necessity for the conservation of the government, the prolongation of the term of office of the President and of his substitute would be more conformable to the spirit of the constitution, inasmuch as it would avoid possibility of the government being without a head, or the creation of rival functionaries, operating one in the absence of the other; and, moreover, because conformably to the popular vote the President of the republic was elected, primarily and directly, to exercise the functions of the executive, while the president of the supreme court was elected, primarily and directly, to exercise judicial functions, those of the executive being intrusted to him, secondarily and ad interim, in the case of absolute necessity.

Fifthly. And considering that the present case is not provided for in the constitution, and the interpretation of the provisions and spirit of the constitution belongs exclusively to the legislative power, and that the law of December 11, 1861, confirmed by repeated votes of confidençe by the national congress, has invested the President with power not subjected to ordinary constitutional rules, by which he possesses plenary power to do and perform all acts which he may judge proper during existing circumstances, unrestricted save as to the salvation of the independence and integrity of the national territory, of the form of government established by the constitution, and of the principles and laws of reform—

It has pleased me to decree as follows:

ARTICLE I. In the present condition of the war, it becomes necessary to extend, and are hereby extended, the functions of the President of the republic beyond the time ordinarily limited by the constitution, until such a period at which the executive government can be turned over to a President duly elected at an election, which shall be held whenever the condition of the war shall admit of its being held constitutionally.

ART. II. For a like reason it becomes necessary to extend, and are hereby extended, the functions of the person who holds the position of president of the supreme court of justice, beyond the time ordinarily limited by the constitution, in order that, should a vacancy occur in the presidency of the republic, he may be enabled to fill it as substitute.

For all of which I order this to be printed, published, and circulated, that force be given the same.

Given at El Paso del Norte this eighth day of November, in the year 1865.

BENITO JUAREZ.

The Citizen SEBASTIAN LERDO DE TEJADA.

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT—DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT—SECTION FIRST.

The citizen President of the republic has seen fit to issue the following decree:

Benito Juarez, constitutional President of the United States of Mexico, to the inhabitants thereof:

Be it known, that in exercise of the plenary powers conferred upon me by the national congress, through its decrees of December 11, 1861, of May 3, and of October 27, 1862, and of May 27, 1863; and whereas,

Firstly. The citizen General Jesus G. Ortega thought proper, in July of the year 1863, to assume the office of governor of the State of Zacatecas, and abandoned in San Luis Potosi the office of constitutional president of the supreme court of justice.

Secondly. For this reason. following the precedent of congress, which, owing to the vacancy in the constitutional presidency of the court, had created provisionally a president of the court, the government at the city of Chihuahua, under date of November 30, 1864, declared that it was necessary that the citizen General Ortega should continue in his capacity as president of the supreme court of justice.

Thirdly. The object literally expressed in that resolution was to avoid possibility of the government being without a head, and gave to the citizen General Ortega a definite and recognized title, so that in the case of a vacancy in the presidency of the republic, he could enter upon its duties as substitute.

Fourthly. Not being contrary to this motive, as he could fulfil his duties in any part of the republic, government conceded to General Ortega on the 30th of December, 1864, a license, which he prayed for on the 28th, to proceed and bear arms in the cause of independence within the interior of the republic, with the privilege expressed in the license, according to his solicitation, as well of going direct through Mexican territory as of passing *in transitu* through a foreign land.

Fifthly. General Ortega departed accordingly, and, nevertheless, despite the express tenor of his license, and in the place of passing *in transitu*, has resided permanently in a foreign country, without license or permission so to do, and in this wise abandoned his office of president of the supreme court of justice, under the grave circumstances of an actual state of war, at a time when serious casualties have happened, and still may happen, by some of which the government may suffer the inconvenience of being without a head; yet, in expectation of his return, it was not deemed advisable to name another president of the court, who, in the event of a vacancy in the presidency of the republic, might assume its functions as substitute.

Sixthly. In addition to responsibility, incurred through official vacation of his post as president of the court, he has likewise violated the rules of good order, inasmuch as, holding a position as general, he has gone to reside permanently in a foreign country, during continuance of a state of war, and thereby abandoned the cause of the republic, its standard and army.

Eighthly. Considering that the government can and ought to declare this responsibility, with the power and ample functions delegated to it by congress, not in opposition to, by applying a just remedy in necessary cases, according to the provisions of the constitution with regard to public functionaries—

I decree as follows:

ARTICLE I. The citizen General Jesus Gonzalez Ortega, inasmuch as from his having taken up a permanent residence in a foreign land during a continuance of actual hostilities, without license or commission from the government, has rendered himself responsible to a charge of official dereliction, in voluntarily abandoning his office as president of the supreme court of justice; that, when he presents himself upon the soil of the republic, the government will make such dispositions as will establish his guiltiness.

ART. II. The government, employing the plenary powers delegated by congress, and applying article 104 of the constitution, declares that cause exists to proceed against the citizen Jesus Gonzalez Ortega, and that, when he presents himself upon the soil of the republic, a judicial inquisition will be had against him for a crime against good order, for that, while holding the position of a general in the army, he has resided permanently and voluntarily in a foreign land, during continuance of hostilities, without license from the government, thereby abandoning the army, its standards, and the cause of the republic.

ART. III. Conformably to precedent, established by congress, the government, in exercise of its plenary powers, will nominate a president of the supreme court of justice to serve as a substitute to the President, should a vacancy occur prior to the time when the office shall be turned over to his successor, constitutionally elected, as soon as the state of the war will permit an election to be held.

For all of which I order this to be printed, published, and circulated, that force be given the same.

Given at El Paso del Norte this eighth day of November, in the year 1865.

BENITO JUAREZ.

The Citizen SEBASTIAN LERDO DE TEJADA.

Protest of the citizen Jesus G. Ortega, president of the supreme court of justice of the Mexican republic, against the decrees issued by Don Benito Juarez, on the 8th day of November, 1865.

The impolitic and disgraceful act consummated by Don Benito Juarez, in issuing, through your official hands, the decrees of the 8th of November last past, has placed me in the painful position, aware of the circumstances surrounding the political situation of the Mexican republic, of protesting before and in the name of the nation against the subject-matter and import of those manifestoes:

Firstly. For that they are against the express provisions of the political constitution of the republic, and are consequently arbitrary, illegal, and void of effect.

Secondly. For that they create a dictatorship, to be wielded by Benito Juarez, who can, at his option, supersede one of the federal authorities, sovereign and independent, whose functions have been recognized by the vote of the nation, in this wise destroying a republican principle, and the basis of legal order—that is, *the form of government established by the constitution.*

Thirdly. For that they are contrary to the spirit of the powers delegated to the executive by the national congress, which to-day, notwithstanding existence of a war with France, declared, while making the concessions contained in the decree of December 11, 1861, whereby authority of every nature was conceded to the executive to institute, unrestrictedly, such measures as might be considered apt and proper under the actual circumstances, that such powers were to be exerted with a sole view of preserving the independence and integrity of the national territory, *the form of government established by the constitution,* and the

principles and laws of reform. Moreover, the law of October 27, 1862, imposed a positive restriction that the executive could do nothing contrary to the provisions of Title IV of the constitution, which provides that the President has no power to declare if cause exists against any public functionary—a restriction conceived and set forth with the aim of precluding possibility of the President abusing his power to the detriment of constitutional authority.

Fourthly. For that the decrees aforesaid seriously compromise the independence of the nation, robbing its defenders of a legitimate government, which alone can serve as a rallying point for united patriotism, and substituting in its stead an illegal usurpation, with no more force in authority than that of the unconstitutional decrees now issued.

Fifthly. For that the tone of those decrees is insulting to the Mexican people, battling for principle beneath the constitutional banner, as from a perusal of their text it may be inferred that blood, spilled by thousands of patriots and martyrs, had been outpoured with no other object than for a defence of the person of Benito Juarez, and that, without the salvation of this individual, the cause of Mexico would be hepeless.

Sixthly. For that the statements set forth in those decrees are not only founded upon sophistry, but contain calumnies affecting my personal and official character.

The obligations of the solemn oath assumed by me as constitutional president of the supreme court of justice, in accordance with the letter and spirit of the constitution, have been so far observed by me in full faith, as well as with a regard for the popular rights secured the nation by that instrument, as the nation, when again recovering full exercise of its privilege, must hold all functionaries to a strict accountability.

Eagle Pass, *December* 21, 1865.

JESUS G. ORTEGA.

Don Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada.

The citizen Jesus G. Ortega, constitutional president of the supreme court of justice, to the Mexican nation:

Mexicans: Don Benito Juarez has issued, at El Paso del Norte, on the 8th day of November last past, through the intermediation of Don Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada, acting as minister of relations and government, two decrees—in one extending the duration of his own powers, and in the other divesting of authority the president of the supreme court of justice. Although alleging two separate pretexts for this last decree, it has been issued with the sole and exclusive aim of arrogating to his personal action the election of the vice-president of the republic, a person who, by the express terms of the constitution, is entitled to and should succeed to the exercise of the supreme executive power on the 1st of December following. There is nothing singular in this step of the Señor Lerdo de Tejada, when his past political career has been called to mind. It must be remembered that he was one of the persons participating in the *coup d'état* of Comonfort—a bloody page in the history of Mexico, which excited the scandal of the world. Returning to the soil of my country, whither I had been drawn from promptings of honor and duty, and where I had come to fulfil the duties of the office which I had received, not from Benito Juarez, but through the spontaneous expression of national confidence, the first spectacle which greeted my vision was its genial horizon lowering over a blood-stained country, strewn with the ruins of a political edifice, previously raised at so dear a cost. There were presented to me two decrees, foreshadowing the gloom of the future. Beneath their shadow I perceived anarchy and disorder, an outrage upon the

Mexican people, another scandal in our political history, as the inevitable consequences of acts reprobated by morality and experience, the deeds of men who have prostituted the law into a means to serve their personal ambition, instead of administering it for the public good. They revived the painful reflection that Mexicans, treasuring confidence in the purifying influences of republicanism, had deceived themselves when they had hoped that ignominy had forever disappeared from their midst, leaving behind it but a melancholy memory of previous misdeeds.

My first impression was to postpone all action for the benefit of my country, for which I would have spared no sacrifice, whatever may be its magnitude. My public career, heretofore without stain, is the clearest testimony of the truth of my sentiments. Two expedients presented themselves whereby to extricate myself from my cruel position. The one was to remain mute, saying not a word against the illegality of these decrees, immolating myself upon the altar of my country, retiring to some foreign land, so that the friends of legality, of popular right, of constitutional privilege, should have no other banner to rally around than that set up in this arbitrary manner. The other was to protest against these decrees, leaving national rights intact, yet not to erect a new standard, for this might generate a fresh and imprudent scandal. Neither was I willing to absent myself, for such a desertion would militate against principle. Had I followed the first suggestion, I would have abandoned rights, not my own, but those of the people, transmitted to me through their votes; I should have shirked fulfilment of the oath taken before the national congress, and avoided performance of the duties of my official position, substituting in their stead a modest shame; I would have abandoned the straight road and turned aside into another, whether for good or evil, but which assuredly was not the pathway of duty and honor. Moreover, it would have resulted in leaving the country without a legal government, without which it would have been impossible to have made head against a colossal enemy; it would have authorized a fresh attack upon the dignity of the law, without which it is hopeless to anticipate a permanent establishment of the republic and of national tranquillity.

In adopting a second course, I would fulfil my duty and demonstrate to the nation that I was not a party, either tacit or active, to the blow inflicted upon constitutional rights; I would show to the world that the errors of two men were not those of the nation, whose interests are derived from a more elevated origin—interests which Mexico has defended for the last ten years; and, finally, I would place myself in a position before my country capable of defending my conduct. Neither did I believe that persistence in silence would better the military condition of the war. Consequently, I determined upon this last line of conduct, and directed to Don Sebastian de Lerdo de Tejada the protest against the unconstitutional decrees to which I have alluded.

ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION.

ART. 79. The President shall enter upon the functions of his office on the first day of December, and continue for the term of four years.

ART. 79. In the temporary absence of the President of the republic, and in the interim before his successor qualifies, the president of the supreme court of justice shall enter upon and perform the duties of that office.

ART. 80. If the absence of the President be absolute, a new election will be held, in accordance with the provisions of Art. 76; and the President in this wise elected will perform his functions until the last day of November of the fourth year from the time of his election.

ART. 82 If, from any cause whatsoever, the election for President is not held and published by the first day of December, by which time the vacancy should have been filled, or that the candidate elect should fail to enter upon the per-

ormance of his duties, the term of the previous President, nevertheless, ceases, and the supreme executive power, during the interim, will vest in the president of the supreme court of justice.

ART. 94. The members of the supreme court of justice, upon entering upon the functions of their office, shall take an oath before congress, or, in the event of its adjournment, before the permanent deputation, in the following form: "You do swear loyally and patriotically to fill the office of magistrate of the supreme court of justice, which the people have conferred upon you, conformably to the constitution, and regarding only the welfare and prosperity of the union."

ART. 95. The office of magistrate of the supreme court of justice can only be renounced for grave causes, (*por causa grave,*) qualified by congress, unto whom the renunciation must be presented, if during its adjournment the qualification shall be made by the permanent deputation.

TITLE IV.—*Responsibilities of public functionaries.*

ART. 103. The deputies of the congress of the union, the magistrates of the supreme court, and cabinet secretaries, are responsible for malfeasance in office, and for the derelictions or omissions which occur during their continuance in office. The governors of States are equally responsible for infractions of the constitution and federal laws. So, also, is the President of the republic; but during his term of office he can only be accused, on charges of treason against the country, *of express violation of the constitution*, of attacks upon the elective franchise, and of criminal offences of the common order.

ART. 104. If the crime be of the common order, congress, acting as a grand jury, will decide whether there be cause to proceed against the accused. In the case of a regular decision, no ulterior proceedings can be had. Should the decision be affirmative, the accused will be suspended from office and subjected to the action of the ordinary tribunals.

ART. 105. In cases of malfeasance, congress will act as a jury of accusation, and the supreme court as a tribunal for judgment.

The jury of accusation will declare as to the guilt of the accused by a majority of votes. If the accusation be absolved, the official will continue in the enjoyment of his office; if sustained, the offender will be immediately divested of office, and placed at the disposition of the supreme court. This court, erected into a tribunal of sentence, in the presence of the criminal, the public prosecutor and the accuser, if any there be, shall proceed to pronounce, by a majority of votes, the penalty which the law provides.

ART. 106. Judgment pronounced for responsibility as to malfeasance, no pardon can be granted the transgressor.

ART. 107. Responsibility as to malfeasance can only be exacted during the term of the offender's office, and for the period of one year thereafter.

ART. 108. In demands of a civil order, there is neither process nor immunity for public functionaries.

In according extraordinary powers to the executive, by reason of the state of war, congress, in its concessions in the decree of October 27, 1862, imposed an express and definite restriction that he should do nothing contrary to the provisions of title IV of the constitution. Hence it can be readily surmised that congress had other objects in imposing this restriction upon the executive beyond the mere conservation of constitutional order, in placing the high dignitaries of the state beyond reach of presidential attack. They evidently feared that, were unlimited power placed in the hands of the executive, he might proceed against some functionary, and in this wise produce internal disorder, as Juarez has done in this instance, contrary to the provisions of the constitution, through abuse of the powers accorded by congress, and to the manifest prejudice of public decency.

According to article 95 of the constitution, "the office of magistrate of the supreme court of justice can only be renounced for grave causes, (*por causa grave,*) qualified by congress, unto whom the renunciation must be presented. If during its adjournment, the qualification shall be made by the permanent deputation." A sufficient answer to this consists in the fact that I have not renounced the office conferred upon me by popular suffrage, nor has any grave cause been urged against me to render such a step advisable, and consequently no qualification has been made by either congress or the permanent deputation.

I have quoted the preceding provisions of the constitution, so that from a perusal of their text the enormity of their infraction is apparent, and not with a view to exhibit the utter worthlessness of the pretensions upon which are based the decrees of November, which attempt would be an insult to the common sense of the general public.

In the decrees of Juarez, and the circular accompanying them, he has sought to furnish a sample of logic and explanation of our constitutional law. To these puerile expedients he has had recourse, for want of better reasons to support his assumptions. Neither as a Mexican, nor as a magistrate, do I wish to discuss this point; the nation will adjudicate upon the simple narration of fact. I would it were within my province to reveal all; it would vindicate my conduct and place Juarez and Lerdo in no enviable and patriotic light; but national interests demand my silence.

The *coup d'état* of Comonfort, in 1857, caused Don Benito Juarez, then chief justice of the supreme court, to enter upon the executive functions of the Union. Legal order established after three years of civil war, congress met in 1861, and there being no person legally entitled to assume the functions of the presidency of the republic, in the event of a vacancy, by reason of the president of the supreme court of justice having entered upon the duties of the chief executive, an election was held to supply the vacancy in the order of succession to the presidency, and, in accordance with that design, I was elected to the presidency of the supreme court *ad interim.* About that period I had been elected, by the popular vote, governor of the State of Zacatecas.

After assuming the prescribed oath of office, as president of the court *ad interim,* before the national representatives, I proceeded a few days thereafter to the city of Zacatecas, and assumed the governorship of that State.

This occurred in the year 1861. During the last months of that year, and the earlier ones of 1862, I acted alternately as constitutional governor of Zacatecas, governor and military commander of the State of San Luis Potosi, and military commander of the States of Aguas Calientes and Tamaulipas. This last disposition was made in consequence of the state of the war.

During all this time neither the nation, the permanent deputation, nor congress, when it assembled, perceived that I had abandoned the presidency *ad interim* of the supreme court, nor did they detect that incompatibility in office-holding which Señors Juarez and Lerdo de Tejada seek to discover by a resort to obsolete constitutional authority, with the aim of finding out that which has no existence in our present national compact.

It had been the desire of congress simply to select a person with an acknowledged and legal title to succeed to the presidency of the republic, in the event of a vacancy, and not an individual to preside over the ordinary business of the court. The political emergencies of the period, particularly during a state of war, demanded the recognition of a person entitled to the succession, and it mattered little whether he was, or was not, governor of Zacatecas.

During normal times it might have proven inconvenient for the same individual to enjoy two employments; still the constitution is silent on that head, and neither have I pretended to fill both at the same time. The war and state of the country governed my actions, and not my own inclinations, for my honor and sense of duty to my native land have impelled me to situations wherein I could render

myself most useful to my country. Moreover, I have ever deemed it a gratification to obey the summons which the nation extends to a soldier of the people. I have referred to past events, not for the sake of argument, but to cite facts, patent to the world, and ratified by popular opinion.

During my sojourn in Zacatecas and San Luis, at a distance from the capital of the republic, a popular election was held for the presidency of the supreme court of justice, which election, according to the declaration of the house, resulted in my elevation to that dignity, notwithstanding opposition from the administration of Benito Juarez, with all its power and influence.

When elected I was constitutional governor of Zacatecas; and notwithstanding that fact, on my transit through the capital of the republic, I took the oath of office and entered upon its functions for a day, and thence passed on to assume command of my army division in the department of the east.

Shortly after, I took command, in my capacity as general-in-chief, of that department, and a very little later officiated as governor and military commander of the State of Puebla, which I held until the middle of the year 1863; and during all this period I maintained a second capacity, as I have stated, namely, as constitutional governor of Zacatecas.

During the interval of my respective services, neither the nation, the permanent deputation, nor congress discovered any abandonment on my part of the presidency of the court, neither did they perceive that incompatibility in employments concerning which so much has been said. I was found exactly where my duty as a soldier summoned me.

Having been taken prisoner on the plaza of Puebla, it appears that some propositions were made in the house, having for their object the nomination of some person to replace me in office. No action was had on these propositions, as my nomination had been made for the presidency of the court in compliance with the requirements of the constitution; consequently the appointment of any other person would have been invalid on account of its unconstitutionality. The records of the congressional session attest the truth of these facts. Having attained freedom through an escape from the prison of Orizaba, I forthwith hastened to San Luis, where I found the government located. After opening the supreme court, I directed my steps to the State of Zacatecas, in nowise abandoning the presidency of the court, as has been malignantly asserted, but, on the contrary, complying with all the rules and regulations governing the internal organization of that body.

At the time of my march, and my separation from the court, I demonstrated to the magistrates that my escape from prison in nowise compromised my parole of honor, and that my object was to hold myself in readiness to struggle for the independence of Mexico, whose salvation depended rather upon feats of arms than upon discussions of points of law, and hence I was anxious to present myself in a State of which I was a son and the governor, to impose new obstacles to the advance of the invader. My colleagues approved of my resolution. A little later was conceded the license I solicited; at the time, I was still governor of Zacatecas.

I had, on many occasions, organized the troops of Zacatecas and commanded them through various successful campaigns. I had been one of the leaders of the State during the revolution for reform and the establishment of public order. I had been a governor for five years, and was so at the time, having been re-elected by the popular vote.

It was natural to suppose I exerted no little influence upon the political affairs of that population. My convictions, and, I may assert without fear of equivocation, the convictions of my copatriots, demanded that I should devote my energies to the reorganization of its troops, to oppose a bold front to the enemy during those solemn moments of the country.

It is but rational to presume that the government of the union would have

been actuated by similar patriotic convictions. The spectacle of the national drama remained unchanged, or, if it had changed at all, the aspect had been rendered more melancholy by the misfortunes incurred at Mexico and Puebla; nevertheless, personal interests, shielded from public scrutiny, overpowered considerations for the common weal.

During anterior years my permanent presence at the court had not been deemed requisite, neither was it so considered when I lay besieged within the walls of Puebla. But in those days organs of the popular voice were on the alert, keeping constant guard over the interests of the state.

The government worked only to stultify my influence; it operated to preclude any opportunity of my sharing the popular destiny through rendering fresh services to the country. The cardinal policy of all its acts tended towards ulterior purposes.

My position at the head of the troops of an influential democratic State was one of the most serious obstacles Mexico presented to the invader; it served, moreover, as a sentinel, guarding the legal rights and privileges of the people, so that the offices of the State could not be disposed of as if they were in the hands of private proprietors.

The administration of Señor Juarez, instead of employing for the benefit of Mexico the great or little influence which I possessed in Zacatecas, commenced intriguing, in a private manner, with a view of removing matters and persons to another sphere, in order to neutralize my influence. At the same time, Señor Juarez indited a private epistle to Don Severo Cosio, who acted as governor of Zacatecas, promising him a continuance in office. As the tenor of the communication was of a private character, and related to the personal opinions of the President, the patriot, Señor Cosio, answered in a like style, assuring him that my influence in the State, taken in connection with my official position as governor, was of importance, if not absolutely necessary, did they desire to defend the integrity of the State. Nevertheless, the intrigues continued. Shortly after came commissioners and agents of the government, who tendered proposals of command to the general, Don Victoriano Zamora, who had been provisional constitutional governor of the said State in previous years. Civil war was on the point of breaking out in Zacatecas by reason of the private intrigues of the government; and this, too, at a time when the French army was penetrating into the interior of the country, and Zacatecas was standing in threat of an attack.

The government was well aware that, should it declare Zacatecas to be in a state of siege, with a view of appointing a governor selected by it to supersede me, it would be my duty to obey the mandate; but, at the same time, the government was likewise aware that such an act would be reprobated by a State notoriously jealous of the exercise of its privileges, and one which contributed the most towards the defence of independence under a constitutional *régime*. It was aware, moreover, that the nation at large would recognize, in an act of that nature, the motive of its dictation to be to impair my popularity to serve its own personal inclinations. All these machinations crumbled to pieces, shaken by the patriotism and common sense of the people of that section of the republic.

The country disapproved of all these things, for it was deemed necessary to discard private interests, and to concentrate every energy towards the public welfare. With this object in view a delegation, composed of the deputies, the licentiate Don José Maria Castro, and Colonel Don Jesus Leora, was sent to the city of San Luis, there to address the government in a firm, yet respectful manner, as to the resolution taken up by Zacatecas to furnish troops, in its sovereign capacity, in accordance with its population and dignity, which forces would be placed at the disposal of the supreme government. At the same time the delegation was charged to request that no more obstacles should be placed in the way of its particular government when endeavoring to discharge its patriotic

mission. Finally, the State agreed to guarantee all my actions, and pledged itself to pay over monthly the assessment levied upon it as a national contribution.

The general government had previously despatched agents into the State ostensibly to act as collectors of revenue, but, in reality, to impede my progress in the work of raising troops. Had the government stood in need of resources, the delegation were prepared to stipulate as to payment of contributions, under the proviso of having the amount definitely determined. The delegation had interviews with Señor Juarez and some of his ministers without arriving at any satisfactory conclusion. Nothing could be more natural, for they were strenuously opposed by two ministers, holding secret communications with the enemy, as was shortly afterwards demonstrated to the public through the notoriety of their treason. These ministers, in treacherous employ, naturally exerted every endeavor to damage the republic, and through complication of affairs to augment its perilous condition. Nevertheless, all their arguments were warmly applauded by this same Señor Juarez, for they flattered his vanity by encouraging expectations as to his prolongation of his term of office.

The definite answer received by the delegation was to the effect that it would manifest to me that the government had no inclination to recall its agents, and neither did it stand in need of troops, as there were sufficient under the command of Generals Doblado and Uraga.

The delegation conveyed to me the result of its mission, and I detected the hand of treason in these machinations of the cabinet. So, was it possible that the defence of our independence demanded no further soldiery, when a foreign army was invading the national domain? Did no necessity exist for fresh troops, when the army of the east had been dissipated at Puebla? My conscience dictated perseverance in discharge of my duty as a Mexican, and as governor of Zacatecas.

Shortly after, Senor Juarez departed from the State of San Luis and proceeded to that of Coahuila, in consequence of the loss of the division under General Negrete, which served him as an escort.

About this time the deputy Don Trinidad Garcia de la Cadena visited Saltillo on a mission from the governor of Zacatecas to Señor Juarez. Upon concluding his official business he was invited to a private interview with Señor Lerdo de Tejada, minister of foreign relations and government. Thither he presented himself, and received from the minister proposals flattering his ambition as to a military command. It was proposed to him that, upon my first absence from the city of Zacatecas, he should seize upon the governorship, supported by the troops beneath his command as a colonel. He was, moreover, informed that the government would approve of this measure, and would immediately thereafter forward him his commission as governor of the State.

Señor Garcia de la Cadena, a native of Zacatecas, who had rendered the country signal service, both in politics and the army, refused to accept this proposition, objecting that such a course would excite a civil war within a State upon the eve of invasion by foreign force. Nevertheless, the intrigues were not as yet concluded. The same Señor Cadena, while communicating to me the narrative of his official mission, remarked: "I have noted, in all my conferences at Saltillo with Señor Lerdo de Tejada and his subordinates, that a strong desire exists for the disbandment of the troops which you have organized and are continuing to organize. They fear them, because they also dread the arrival of the period at which the term of Juarez's office will expire, as, of course, Señor Lerdo desires to continue in discharge of his ministerial functions."

My relations in the general government were apparently in concert and harmony. The course of the war compelled it to withdraw more than 150 leagues from Zacatecas, and experience demonstrated that it had ample need of the forces which I had been engaged in organizing.

In one or two months I raised, equipped, and armed a strong division of the three arms of the service. They had been raised in the midst of these numerous intrigues, and against the inclinations of Señor Juarez, and served to cooperate, in more than one instance, most efficaciously for the salvation of his person, and consequently of that of the legitimate government, beside paying implicit obedience to orders received from him.

Herein are some of the consequences of the abandonment, as he states, of the presidency of the supreme court while at San Luis.

I was still within the State of Zacatecas, at the head of the division I had organized, when most reliable information was communicated to me with regard to the contemplated treason of Don José Lopez Uraga, who commanded, as general-in-chief, the flower of the republican army, in the south of Jalisco.

I repeatedly communicated this intelligence to Señor Juarez, so that he might institute effective measures with regard to this general and avoid the destruction of our army.

General Corona possessed a command under the immediate orders of Uraga. When he became aware of his superior's treason he demanded his passports and withdrew. Passing through Zacatecas, he entered into a conversation with me relative to this treason.

Corona gave to the government a minute and official narration of the affair, and placed the manuscript in my hands for transmission, which I sent forward by a special messenger. This messenger was Captain Don Marcelino E. Cavero, an officer who had likewise separated from the forces of Uraga, and who was charged to communicate other details verbally to the government.

Other chiefs, coming from the south of Jalisco, successively visited me, corroborating particulars of the affair. I was assured by all of them that full knowledge of Uraga's contemplated treason had been communicated to the government by the illustrious and patriotic General Arteaga. At a later period I found this statement substantiated in an autographic letter of that unfortunate and lamented general.

General Don Felipe B. Berriozabal, passing through the State of Zacatecas, invited me to a conference with the intention of placing me in possession of facts connected with the treason projected in Jalisco. Urgent military business precluded my presence at the proposed interview.

General Berriozabal, without loss of time, pressed forward to the States of Coahuila and Nuevo Leon, then the seats of the government.

He presented himself thither, and gave most conclusive evidence of the existence of the treason alluded to, as that was the object of his mission. He did more—he denounced Uraga to the government as guilty of high treason. Still nothing was done. Señor Juarez made but a single reply, saying, "That if Señor Berriozabal had been invited to participate in the projected treason, it had been, doubtlessly, done as a test of his firmness and constancy."

The general, taking into consideration what had passed, and the support bestowed upon Uraga by the Señors Juarez and Lerdo, withdrew his accusation and remitted to the government a communication, very respectful, yet expressed in emphatic terms, in which he stated that either the government should investigate the charges made against him by Uraga, or he would publish documents dishonorable alike to Uraga and the government. His demand was complied with, and Señor Berriozabal gave to light the communication to which I have alluded and the answer, wherein he vindicated himself, preserving in obscurity the documents to which he referred. Señors Juarez and Lerdo persistently turned a deaf ear to complaints; they regarded as of no account the depositions and information given by persons interested. The honor of Mexico, the morality of the army, the salvation of the elements for a successful defence of our independence, appeared to them of no value. It was a matter of policy to destroy these elements, created, as all the world knows and admits, by the States of the

confederation through their individual energies and resources. It was absolutely necessary to demolish the sustenance of constitutional order, in order to create other elements and other agencies with the aim of perpetuating, when the time arrived, power in the hands of Señor Juarez. I state this, for I know of no other explanation which can be given of anterior facts. Moreover, I am authorized in this statement by the facts themselves, as I have heard from the very lips of Señor Lerdo, when he says: "The destruction of existing things is of no consequence; great causes save themselves. Our sole question of to-day is how to live."

Every one is aware of the manifold means at the disposal of a minister for the complication of a political situation, whereby, of his own accord, he can undermine the foundations of public order. The secret workings of his cunning may escape the observation of the multitude, but never the penetrating criticism of the historian. Nevertheless, how much more easy the destructive task through the machinations of an arbitrary minister, versed in the art of cajoling the vanity of a dominant executive.

Located in the city of Zacatecas were two strong divisions of the three arms of service, with a formidable train of artillery; the one under the command of General Doblado, the other under my orders. Both divisions were at the disposal of the government when it saw proper to use them. Although both of these corps were located at several days' march from the plaza of San Luis, an order was given to General Negrete by the government to assail that position with the single division at his disposition.

This division was completely destroyed in the attack; subsequently the division of General Doblado was cut up by piecemeal at Matehuala; a little later mine was annihilated at Majoma.

At a conference which I subsequently had with Señor Juarez at Monterey, in the presence of the minister of war, I remarked to him that the period was not far distant when the nation would hold the government to an account for the disastrous manner in which it had frittered away the material for the national defence, through dispersing the elements of resistance by fractions, for, whatever may have been its intentions, the work of the government bore that appearance.

In August of last year the withdrawal of our forces and of the seat of government from Nuevo Leon and Coahuila was determined upon. General Negrete had then charge of the ministry of war, to which he conjoined a double employment as commander-in-chief of the army, composed of two divisions, the one under command of General Alcade, and the other under my orders—the same as I had raised in Zacatecas.

In the city of Saltillo I received orders from the general-in-chief to march to the Punta de la Angostina, at the head of the two divisions, and there give battle to the enemy, should they court it. If they avoided an engagement I was to retire the same night in the direction of the villa of Monclova. I obeyed my orders and accomplished the latter command, finding it impossible to execute the first.

A little after my retreat I effected a junction with General Negrete, whose headquarters were at Saltillo. On the morrow the government united with the forces and journeyed in company to the Hacienda del Anhelo. From this point the government resolved to progress, by way of Parras, to Chihuahua, carrying along with it General Negrete, who officiated as minister of war.

The responsibility of saving our army was committed to my charge, although in an indirect manner, for I had not been nominated general-in-chief, but assigned to the command of the rear-guard, following in the wake of the government. This circumstance is to be noted as explanatory of the manner in which I was forced to assume the responsibility.

The army was absolutely destitute of commissary stores, while the military

chest contained not a single dollar. Its route lay over the most inhospitable and uninhabited section of the national territory; for the greater part over a fearful desert, devoid of grain and forage for cattle. Besides, on these barren plains it was liable to be attacked and cut to pieces by the French forces for the want of the necessaries I have mentioned.

It is likewise to be remembered that, if the army was unprovided with a dollar to supply its absolute necessities, it was not from want of means, which could have been provided beforehand, especially as two months had elapsed after the retreat had been determined upon.

The government had abandoned a plaza which it had occupied during several months, replete with resources, as was that of Monterey, where it could, and did, avail itself of the revenues from the frontier custom-houses of Matamoras and Piedras Negras.

I took my line of march in obedience to orders I had received. On the road I notified the government that the French army was only four leagues distant, and received in reply a written order signed by Don Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada, saying that I should abandon all my artillery and trains and limit myself to saving the *personnel* only of our army, to effect which I was free to take any measure I should deem expedient.

I remonstrated energetically to Señor Lerdo de Tejado, that acquiescence in the order I had received would in no way result in saving the *personnel* of our army, inasmuch as we would abandon the only means of its salvation in voluntarily sacrificing our war material, while at the same time we were compromising the honor of our arms. I said, however, that if, notwithstanding any opposition, the government should insist upon observance of that order, it should be communicated to me officially, to absolve me from responsibility. My argument was attended to, and the minister answered that the government approved of my determination not to anticipate voluntarily the sacrifice of material, but to await the chances of a battle. The French army avoided a conflict at that time.

I continued my march without interruption, losing, it is true, in the desert, a third or fourth part of our army, hundreds of mules, and a greater part of our munitions of war.

I then gave notice to the government, located at the Villa del Almo de Parras, that I had detected symptoms of a dissolution of the forces, as well from scarcity of provisions and stores, as from consequences of the privations endured by the army.

To avoid that calamity, I received an order from the minister of relations not to separate myself from the body of my troops.

At the hacienda of Santa Rosa a council of war was summoned by the government, at which, after hearing the opinion of the ministers, I received the appointment of commander-in-chief of the army.

At the same time there were accorded to me extraordinary powers to procure a supply of metallic currency, of which the army stood in absolute need, with the restriction, however, of acting on this point in concert with General Patoni, the constitutional governor of Durango, in which State were located both the army and the government, who would effect some arrangement with the landed proprietary to supply the wants of the soldiers. Patoni assured me of the impossibility of enforcing contributions upon the landholders, reduced to penury through the hardship of the war. If this were true, as it doubtless was, it only went to aggravate the privations of the troops, caused through the intentional want of foresight in the government. It was under circumstances of this unavoidable nature that the army, whose dissolution was inevitable, was placed under my orders as commander-in-chief. The warmest advocate for my appointment, as I learned from the minister of war, was Don Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada.

It is worthy of note, that if the condition of the army was bad when it com-

menced its retreat from Anhelo, it grew notoriously worse, as was natural, from the causes I have related.

It is more worthy of note, that when I took charge as commander-in-chief, the coffers of the government contained thousands of dollars, reserved for its own use and that of its employés, whom it preferred to the salvation of an army, whose privations had ascended to a point of heroism—an army which had been raised at a heavy cost to the States of Durango, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, and Zacatecas.

At the council of war, of which I have spoken, I delivered my opinion, in terms perfectly intelligible to the government, that we should not destroy, piecemeal, the material upon which we depended, and that we should take advantage of the extent of our line to harass a formidable enemy. At the same time I advised giving battle to the hostile forces, regardless of the point of attack or the number of their re-enforcements, inasmuch as, in this manner, if fortune proved propitious to us, we might capture some city of importance; and if the reverse, it was preferable that our army should be destroyed through chances of war rather than through want and misery, to the dishonor of the government and our arms.

I commenced my march from Santa Rosa, and posted myself between the States of Durango and Zacatecas, both occupied by the invading army. A few days afterwards occurred the battle of Majoma.

The fortune of war caused us to lose one of two points occupied by our troops and artillery. I retook the point only to lose it again.

The death of the brave Colonel Fernandez y Villagranta, who commanded the battalions of Zacatecas, as well as the loss of the leaders of distinction, and particularly the wounding of General Don Eugenio Castro, whom I had ordered to lead a charge of cavalry, introduced confusion among our ranks, which disorder was soon checked through the ability of our officers. Under fire of the enemy our bodies of the national guard remained firm. Evening approached rapidly, when I perceived that the heat of the conflict, the physical prostration engendered through privation, and the march through the desert, had so far worn out the national troops that I ordered a retreat. It was effected in the most orderly manner, in the full sight of the French army, who dared not follow us; consequently we left behind us but a portion of our artillery and the corpses of our brave and patriotic militia, whom we were forced to leave on the field of battle.

It is not my intention to narrate, in a detailed manner, an account of all that befell us upon that disastrous day, for those matters I have already officially reported to the government. My object is merely to connect the thread of events. Our forces retired, in the best possible order, to the town of San Miguel del Mezquital, and disbanded during the night of the same day on which occurred our reverses at Majoma. No discipline could have averted this final calamity. Every man conceived that he had discharged his duty, and that the war could be more successfully carried on in detached bodies. The only aspect for a contrary course presented to them seemed that of privation and the desert. Señor Juarez was at that time in the town of Mazas, awaiting the result of my expedition, where he was visited by more than a hundred leaders, desirous of receiving facilities and orders to continue the campaign under other auspices. But he did not wait their action, for, aware of the disasters occurring to our forces, he withdrew to Chihuahua, one hundred and fifty leagues from the place we occupied.

I committed the insignificant remnants of our national forces to the charge of Generals Quesada and Carvajal, until the government could make some disposition of them.

I gave the official notice to which I alluded, and received an acknowledgment, which ordered me to transfer the relic of our army to General Patoni, which I did. In the verbal conference which I had with the government, I

made known to it that there still remained at its disposal a small escort of cavalry which accompanied me. This I regarded as my duty, and, after a lapse of two or three days, I received an order to that effect, which I fulfilled. Tacitly I remained awaiting orders, as a general, from the government; but this suspense in nowise suited me, so I notified it that I held myself ready to obey orders, and that such disposition could be made of my person as suited official inclination. I had no military commission to fulfil, and did not even possess an escort.

I would add to these particulars many other details respecting the charge made by the government in one of its decrees, that "while holding the position of general in the army I had gone to reside permanently in a foreign land, during continuance of hostilities, without license from the government, and therein abandoning the army, its standards, and the cause of the republic," and which is likewise called the official dereliction of voluntarily abandoning the presidency of the supreme court of justice. A portion of the statements which I intend setting forth can be substantiated by reputable persons, some well known in the State of Chihuahua, and others of a world-wide repute. Other assertions bear the sanction of the government, and all observations I shall make are deducible from the state of facts. I arrived in the State of Chihuahua after the disaster at Majoma, some time towards the end of September, 1864, and remained in that State until the end of February, 1865, when I departed for a foreign country. During all this period, in Chihuahua was the seat of the general government, and for more than three months of the time above named I resided in the same city with the administration. During this period of inactivity I was tendered no command of troops to defend "the standard and cause of the republic;" neither was I offered any military commission, great or small, nor did I receive any intimation as to the manner in which my services and good-will could be rendered of value to my country, although I ardently desired employment, if only for the sake of appearances.

The government had no desire to furnish me with troops, and in this wise deprived me of opportunity to add to my influence beneath a military title; it preferred leaving me without positive support, and was blind to the privileges accorded to me by the law.

About this time it became incumbent upon the executive either to relinquish his functions, according to constitutional provision, or to furnish such an explanation of the law as would warrant him constitutionally to prolong his term of office for another year.

The 30th of November, 1864, arrived, and terminated four years, dating from the election of Señor Juarez. On that day I addressed a communication to that high functionary, through the medium of Don Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada, in his capacity as minister of government, inquiring whether it was his intention on the following day to pass over the executive power to me, as it had ceased by legal limitation; or, if the contrary was his determination, I told him to bestow upon the constitutional law such an interpretation as he might deem proper, whereby we could avoid anarchy, strengthen the exercise of the functions of the President of the republic, and leave intact the constitutional law—a law sustained by the blood of the Mexican people during a period of eight years in warfare. To such a conception, I added, I would be among the first to give my acquiescence. This he gave me on the same day, November 30, accompanied by a note which had been agreed upon at a meeting of the cabinet, and which bore the signature of Señor Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada. It decided that the constitutional term of office of President Juarez did not conclude in that year, (1864,) but would expire on the 30th of November, 1865, according to the provision of the constitution. And, notwithstanding this decision, he claims to continue exercising the functions of President, according to the self-

same provision of the constitution which he has previously interpreted to have closed his career, at the furthermost, upon the 30th day of November, 1865.

I will insert, at this point, the exact words employed by the minister in his official note, in making his deductions from the premises he had laid down: "For which reason, it is decided that the term of office of the citizen President of the republic does not expire until the 30th day of the next year, 1865, *conformably to the evident and literal tenor of article* 80 *of the constitution.*"

In the same communication he *declared me president of the court.* I did not pretend to this declaration, for I stood in no need of it, and neither the condition of affairs at this epoch, nor the interests of Mexico, demanded it. I had been appointed by the nation constitutional president of the court in 1862, and the house had declared me to be such in a most solemn manner. The decree containing this declaration had received the sanction of the executive and been published throughout the republic.

Neither popular opinion nor the councils, municipalities, governors, and legislatures of States entertained the least doubt upon the fact of my election, and of my being president of the court. To the nation belonged the right of appointing supreme authorities, in accordance with the fundamental law, sole source and fountain of authority with us. I did not, therefore, require any other appointment or declaration, and especially one suited for the convenience of Señors Lerdo de Tejada and Juarez in their prospects for a future date—prospects whose tendencies were far from the conservation of the purity of the law, intrusted by the nation to the guardianship of Señor Juarez.

The main object of the declaration was the destitution of the president of the court elected by the people, and the substitution of one appointed by Don Benito Juarez, who might have the power of removing him at his individual pleasure.

Such had been the intention of the government ever since it had left the city of San Luis. Latterly it had suffered no opportunity to escape it to compass its design, even when the opportunities failed to bear the imprint of patriotism.

In this wise the government acted, upon its arrival within the States of Nuevo Leon and Chihuahua, when issuing a decree summoning a reunion of the magistrates comprising the court. The summons found me at the head of my division, battling with the French troops within the interior of the republic.

It was apparent that the sole motive for the decree was the appointment of a president of the court, who should owe his nomination and creation to the President of the republic, and thereby remove the prestige derived from a popular election from the person who might, through emergency, act as the substitute of the supreme magistrate of the nation. But the decree failed of effect. Out of respect for the position I occupy, out of respect to the dignity of the nation—the only source whence can come nominations of supreme authorities, and their destitution conformably to the law—I have preserved intact the charge reposed in me by the voice of the people. Consequently, in my official correspondence with the President of the republic, I maintained the title conferred upon me by my fellow-citizens as president of the supreme court of justice.

The determination of the government to continue in office one year longer was acquiesced in by me, as I had previously anticipated that action, and my object had been simply to obtain a construction of the spirit of the law which might become a definite and decisive opinion.

I did not accept office, neither do I continue to hold it, simply for the cause of self-gratification; during more glowing and less fluctuating periods, when fortune smiled upon me with pleasing aspect, I could have obtained official dignities, if not in a manner prescribed by the law, at least in such a way as the law would countenance in a successful leader, during the stormy hours of revolutionary transitions. But I have ever abided the sanction of the popular will, as expressed in accordance with the fundamental law. At that time, as now, I

have only asked that respect be paid to the law, as a foundation-stone in the column sustaining our institutions, beneath the shade of which we shall progress in greatness, as has been done in the great republic from whose borders I indite these sentences.

My official communication and the answer from the government, of which I have spoken, were published in the State journal. There was not the remotest possibility of establishing the court at the city of Chihuahua, as all the magistrates were at a great distance, save the licentiate Don Manuel Ruiz. I had, as I have observed, no military commission for active duty. In order to avoid imputation of doing aught to the disparagement of the government, and fearing lest my political influence might be seized upon to sanction meetings, ostensibly for social purposes, but in reality to distract public opinion, I withdrew myself, as it were, from commingling with the world, and sacrificed the pleasure of a social state, notwithstanding the hospitable reception tendered me by the chivalric inhabitants of that illustrious and democratic State.

From Chihuahua I addressed a letter to the President, Juarez, under date of December 28, 1864. No reference is made to this letter in the decrees of the 8th of November.

In this epistle I stated, that having terminated the business which called me to that city—that is, to ascertain whether or not his official term of service had ceased—I found myself without employment since the early days of October, when I had received orders to pass over the forces to General Patoni; that I had not installed the court, and found it impossible so to do, and that, inasmuch as the state of affairs might *result in a crisis, from the fact of the President of the republic and president of the court being in one city in company, and liable to capture by the French forces, by surprise or otherwise, and in this way leave the nation without a head,* I requested to be granted a license as president of the court, and a passport as a soldier, to take my way towards the interior of the republic, or to any of the populations on the sea-coast, or to travel by sea to a foreign country, as I should esteem suited to my convenience, and with the object of continuing to serve my country. I transmitted this letter of solicitation officially, omitting only those passages above printed in *italics*, which I did not think suitable to be incorporated in a public letter, notwithstanding they set forth the most cogent reasons for urging my solicitation.

My communication was read at a meeting of the cabinet and acted upon, as was natural to anticipate.

On the 29th Señor Juarez answered me in reply, saying: "There has been conceded to you the license and passport you solicited, and at the earliest opportunity the respective ministers will forward you the documents indicated."

On the 30th I received the license granted to me as president of the supreme court from the minister of justice, together with a passport, issued by the minister of war.

I insert this last document at length, because, in the decrees of Benito Juarez an intentional omission has been made with regard to the fact of my having a military passport when I left the country, so that an accusation could be brought against me that "I had gone voluntarily to reside in a foreign country during the continuance of hostilities without a license from government, thereby abandoning the army, its standard, and the cause of the republic."

SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF WAR AND MARINE—SECTION FIRST.

Upon this date the minister of justice, protection, and public order, makes known to the citizen president of the supreme court of justice as follows:

"In accordance with your petition, relative to having a license granted to you as president of the supreme court of justice to pass to a point unoccupied by the enemy, with the aim of continuing to defend in arms the independence of

the republic of Mexico, the citizen President has seen fit, in accordance with a meeting of the cabinet, to accord to you that license for a definite period, or until you present yourself at the seat of the government, or when the government shall call upon you to return, or bestows upon you some commission—leave, in the mean time, to proceed, either directly or by traversing the sea, or through some foreign country, to points of the Mexican republic unoccupied by the enemy, so that you can continue defending the national independence with the forces you can raise, with the understanding that in all military undertakings you institute you are to act in concert with the governor and military commander of the respective States, or with the leaders of the republican forces, so that, in conjunction with those raised by you, you can harass the enemy, but subordinate to the officers of the supreme government, or to the agents to whom such power has been delegated.

"I convey to you the official answer to your solicitation of 28th of the last month, and I have the honor of corresponding with you for the purposes mentioned. It is transmitted to you on behalf of the department of war.

"Independence and liberty! Chihuahua, the 30th of December, 1864.

"M. NEGRETE.

"The *General of Division*, JESUS G. ORTEGA, *Present.*"

From the literal tenor of the document inserted, it can be adduced—

Firstly. That I had a license, as president of the court, and a passport as a soldier, to traverse foreign countries. Subsequently will be shown the reasons inducing me to dwell outside of the country.

Secondly. I had no definite orders to raise this or that force, or to collect together the elements of warfare within this or that period of time; neither was there any time fixed for my reaching Mexican territory, after traversing the sea and sojourning in foreign lands, with the sole provision of defending, upon the national territory, the independence of the State, leaving me free to proceed to any point which I might consider the most proper.

Thirdly. The license accorded to me, in pursuance of the decision of the cabinet, was for an indefinite period of time, either until I should present myself at the seat of government, or be recalled, or have some official charge conferred upon me, thereby demonstrating that neither as president of the court nor as a general in the army were my services for the moment required; yet, nevertheless, it is apparent that in either or both of these capacities my absence at a distance from the seat of government was desirable.

Fourthly. The government, instead of giving me authorization to raise forces in any part, or to collect war materials at a definite position, as it had done for a hundred other persons, and notably for guerilla chiefs, destitute of popular morality, issued to me a simple passport for the purpose of travel, inserting, however, a provision that the forces which I might raise should act in conjunction with the governors and military commanders, and with the chiefs of the republican forces, without interference with the exercise of military and political functions of the officers of the supreme government or their delegates; that is to say, that the government precluded possibility in my raising of forces, for how could a governor, having lost the capital of his State, secure resources or material to make head against an emergency? What faculty had he to procure them against delegated authority, where power so to do had been denied by the supreme government of the union? Could a delegate of the government, or even his subordinate, sustain me when my circle of action was reduced and limited? Could there be placed at my orders a solitary captain of guerillas, who might serve as a centre for forces which I might raise and discipline for a larger body, when the government provided in my passport that I should act in conjunction with him?

I have demonstrated that I had in my possession a license to traverse the

seas to a foreign country. I have, moreover, demonstrated that I was recognized by the nation as president of the supreme court of justice, a duty which I could not exercise in a judicial capacity, through the impossibility of convening the court, but a position which I considered solely as the substitute to the President of the republic, according to the provisions of the law. I have, moreover, demonstrated that I had no military employment, neither army nor forces, be their number ever so small, nor even the material of warfare, thanks to the official opposition of the government.

I was not annoyed at this disposition in the executive, for I expected and was prepared for it. The services which I had rendered to my country had bestowed upon me influence, and that influence opposed personal aggrandizement. In remembrance of recent transactions, transactions which had presented to me many difficulties, which I had surmounted, I was induced again to proffer my sword to my unfortunate country.

In view of intelligence from the interior, and of the disposition of the government, I determined to retire to a distance from it. I distrusted myself. I was uncertain of that which was best for the future of Mexico. I desired to be perfectly correct, and sought light.

I addressed myself for counsel to two illustrious and patriotic citizens in whom I had confidence, and who formed a part of the circle of the government of Señor Juarez as his most zealous partisans, and I supposed them, as was natural, cognizant as to the emergencies of the times. Moreover, they were clothed with an official capacity as members of the general congress. They were Señors Don Guillermo Prieto and Don Francisco Urquidi. Both were of an opinion that my best course was to proceed to the United States of America, inasmuch as from a port in that country I might journey to Acapulco, by the way of the isthmus of Panama, and thence enter the republic from the Pacific coast, and the mean while I might ascertain in the great republic what could be done for the Mexican people.

I accepted the suggestion and commenced my journey. Permit me to remark that the government was in nowise ignorant as to the course I had adopted; on the contrary, when I reached the custom-house at the Paso del Norte, I found an order to pass my baggage to the United States, which had been granted at the solicitation of my friends.

Thence I went to Santa Fé, capital of New Mexico. The authorities of that Territory informed me of the presence there of a stranger, a Hungarian by birth, who represented himself as a special commissioner of the Mexican government to recruit volunteers, to negotiate a loan of some millions, hypothecating the imports of the Pacific seaports. It was, moreover, asserted that his credentials were apocryphal, taking into consideration that he was a foreigner, unknown to the Mexican residents, and the fact that nations seldom, according to universal custom, commit such trusts to other than their own citizens. On this account I deemed it advisable to institute inquiries, so that if the man should prove an imposter I should cause his arrest and extradition to Mexico.

My anterior acquaintance with this stranger, named Jaymes, was through a letter of introduction, representing him as a colonel, soliciting employment in the division beneath my command in that capacity, but which I refused, as I was unaware of his antecedents. The information I subsequently acquired was that he was among the number of adventurers who travelled the world seeking glory and fortune. I saw him three or four times.

I made investigations into the character of his commission, which I found, in many respects, ample and correct, emanating from Don Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada. He was authorized to raise two thousand men in foreign parts, as well as the sum of several millions, hypothecating for its repayment the revenues of several custom-houses on the Pacific coast. The evasive talents of Señor Don Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada being notorious, it is supposed that he designed

merely to cover appearances when he bestowed upon this stranger such ample authority to accomplish great things, when he was confidently convinced that he could do nothing. I explained to the authorities of Santa Fé the nature of the commission bestowed upon the Hungarian gentleman, and returned thanks to them for their zeal in favor of Mexico. I arrived in the centre of the United States during the period of the termination of the great civil war. The press indulged in favorable comments upon my arrival, and expressed profound sympathy with the cause of Mexico. It was likewise so with the entire continental press, and that of Europe. It was believed in the United States that I had some authority from the government, seeing that the period for action was opportune, as in fact it was, that a demonstration should be made in support of Mexico and her independence. The enthusiasm of the Americans in our favor and in support of the Monroe doctrine was intense.

On my passage from New Mexico to New York I was beset by thousands of persons tendering their services and influence in favor of Mexico, many of them being of the highest social and political position. Generals with a most honorable record, commanding divisions and brigades, whose term of service had expired, volunteered to place themselves under my orders, to further our cause.

The passage of the Rio del Norte could be easily effected without impairing the neutral character the general government at Washington had assumed with respect to the Franco-Mexican question. I was, moreover, visited by several bankers of the highest position, who inquired as to the possibility of establishing an agency to supply our financial wants and that of warlike material. Persons who represented that they had authority to act on my behalf, which they had not, enlisted, within a few days, thousands of men to go to Mexico; but, as I have said, I gave no sanction to these acts, as I did not wish to lead home a filibuster expedition.

Without loss of time, on the 8th of May, I addressed a letter to Señor Benito Juarez, announcing my arrival in the United States, the manner of my reception, and a view of what could be done in favor of Mexico. Besides, Señor Juarez was aware of all this through the newspapers. I wrote, moreover, that I would pledge myself to enroll and equip, on my own part, any number of volunteers he might deem advisable; that I would collect war material to carry on hostilities, as well as an abundant sum of money, so as to be able to elevate the character of the war and turn it to a fortunate account. All that was requisite to consummate these projects would be his authorization, for I was unwilling to conclude any contract or enter upon any enterprise without the sanction of him to whom the nation had committed emergent powers. I offered anew my individual services to Mexico. I furthermore suggested that, should he be unwilling to accord me the desired authorization, he should apprise me to that effect, that I might govern my subsequent actions accordingly.

I communicated these details in a private epistle, and not in an official note, for I at that time held no official commission. This matter was one of mere form, and had the correspondence resulted in anything, the results would have been the same, irrespective of the style of communication employed.

I appointed a delegate to deliver personally this letter to Señor Juarez, having previously made him aware of its contents. This task was assumed by Don Guillermo Prieto, administrator general of the post office and deputy to the congress of the union. It will be remembered that I had quitted Chihuahua in the month of February. It will be remembered, likewise, that my journey across the plains to New Mexico had occupied two months, for it had been undertaken during the winter season. It must be furthermore remembered that a period of from two months and twenty days to three months is necessary for the transmission of an answer to a correspondence between the city of New York and Chihuahua, and even then under favorable auspices as to transit, for it is only during the summer season that post coaches can travel with rapidity. On

this account I did not receive the answer from Don Guillermo Prieto until the commencement of August last. In this letter that gentleman stated that he had fulfilled my commission; that Señor Juarez had listened with attention and interest to the details of my letter, as communicated verbally by Señor Prieto, who was given, as he supposed, to understand that I should receive, by the next mail, the authorization I desired. The conclusion of Señor Prieto's communication conveyed to me a felicitation touching my patriotic sentiments. "Whether or not," he wrote, "the government accepts of your services, whether or not it renders your projects of utility to the country, you have assumed one of the most noble and disinterested tasks of a Mexican, in discarding all ideas of a personal reward, while endeavoring to strengthen the action of the government, and, without seeking to create a new candidate for political honors, to strive to have Mexico continue, with unanimity of will, defending the cause of right, guided by a solitary intelligence—that of the legitimate government." With a subsequent mail, towards the end of August, I received a further communication from Señor Prieto, which related to me that notwithstanding his previous impressions, it is now apparent to him that the government did not intend to bestow upon me the authorization; but whether or not, I should receive some response from Señor Juarez. Vainly I awaited its receipt by the next mail and the one following. It was in September, and my anterior correspondence had incurred no interruption. I waited upon Señor Romero, the Mexican ambassador near the government of the United States, and inquired whether any communication had come through his hands for me from the government of the Mexican republic, and he answered in the negative.

I comprehended from all this that Señor Juarez never would answer me, nor did ever intend so to do. He believed that had I received any such document it would have served to refute the fallacies upon which are based the decrees of the 8th of November; which said documents, I verily believe, were at that very time in course of fabrication at the paper mill of the minister, Tejada. I comprehended, moreover, that these negotiations were being carried on with the sole aim of detaining me in the United States, so that by putting in play the jugglery of bad faith, it would be impossible for me to return to Mexico before the first day of December.

It would be futile to vindicate my conduct to my fellow-citizens as against the charges promulgated in these decrees, for a critical examination of them, through the impartial light of reason and philosophy, renders such an explanation unnecessary. These same decrees declare illegally "that there exists cause to proceed against me," and add most falsely "that I abandoned voluntarily the office of president of the supreme court of justice, and that, holding the position of general in the army, I went to reside permanently in a foreign land during the continuance of hostilities, without license from the government, and therein abandoned the army, its standard, and the cause of the republic;" while in those same decrees, I repeat, wherein Señor Don Benito Juarez declares himself President of the republic, he likewise declares that neither the constitutional president of the supreme court, nor the President named by the constitution, shall enter upon the functions of their office. This is the sole and simple object which dictated the promulgation of these decrees.

If I had acted as Señors Juarez and Lerdo have acted, trampling under foot republican principles, outraging constitutional order, violating the solemn obligations of an oath assumed for the welfare of the people, I would have done better to imitate the *coup d'état* of Comonfort, alleging as a pretext, as has ever been alleged, the salvation of Mexico; for the scandal would have been the same, the lack of loyalty to the people the same, and the political results the same. A single difference might be detected: in the *coup d'état* of Comonfort there was but little frankness and civil valor; in that of the 8th of November even these qualities were wanting, as in their stead were substituted

words and sophisms, which, although insulting to popular intelligence, fail to deceive the people.

I abandoned the standards of the army and the cause of the republic, say Señors Juarez and Lerdo—in other words, that I betrayed my trust. And this is set forth in a document wherein they betray their own, the gravest trust which could be committed to mortal man. To extenuate their own transgressions they confuse me individually with another capacity—that of the person prescribed by law to succeed to exercise of the supreme power. I to abandon the standard of the army and the cause of the republic! Can it be imagined that an humble citizen, called by the will of the people to assume a position of the highest dignity, and that without intrigue and solicitation on his part, would voluntarily depart from the rules of honor and decency? Can it be imagined that an humble citizen, freely assuming his place among the ranks of the nation's defenders, disdaining the joys and pleasures of a peaceful hearthside, contemning the luxuries of a home and the flatteries of a social position to struggle in the cause of liberty and order, would voluntarily abandon the principle of honor which called him into being as a soldier?

What man would desert the executive chair as governor of a State? What man, already honored through the nation's voice with the high dignity of president of one of the supreme powers of the United States of Mexico, would go forth to battle against foreign invaders of his country, would defend the walls of a city wherein he was taken prisoner while defending his flag, and at the last hour abandon the cause of duty and honor? What man, escaping from a dungeon and liberated through honorable means, would offer his sword and his patrimony to the service of his country, would contend against intrigues and difficulties, would levy forces after forces to hurl against the invaders wherever they appeared, and in the hour of national trial basely desert the army, its standard, and the cause of the republic? How can it be pretended that I fled, abandoning the presidency of the court, when I was travelling for the good of the country, with the license of and a passport from the government? When in that license and passport there had been committed to me no trust to fulfil, no duty imposed wherein I could make default, was it a crime to intimate to the government that in the position in which I found myself I could do much, very much, towards the salvation of your and my native land? Was it a crime to reiterate, time after time, that my person was subject to its orders, so that my services could be rendered useful to the common weal, and all this without having been favored with a response to the epistle I sent it?

In what did I neglect my duty as a Mexican? Wherein, yielding to the emergencies of my position in a foreign country, did I make default in any order, when leaving all projects I made to the satisfaction of the government? When the government received my despatch it should have answered frankly and openly that the country had no need of my services abroad, and indicated to me the route I should take to return homeward. Had that been done it would have been nearer the truth when it declared to the nation that I remained abroad permanently, although neither before nor after did I receive the least intimation that my presence was necessary upon Mexican soil. Is not an imputation of this nature a pure calumny? Is it worthy the dignity of the government? Will such weak inventions, to be detected by those unversed in political matters, satisfy an accusation in the eyes of a people acquainted with the fundamental principles of the law? Can any man fail to perceive in the decrees and the circular which attempted to divest me of the responsibility and functions of the president of the court, and nominated another in my stead, a declaration that neither I nor he could succeed to the supreme power as provided for in the constitution? Who fails to perceive, I repeat, that all these documents have a single object, a single aim—that of perpetuating power in the hands of those issuing them? If my presence was necessary, as Señors

Juarez and Lerdo would have us understand, to prevent the State from being without a head, why concede a license for an indefinite period of time, and which, from its literal interpretation, suffered me to traverse seas and to journey to foreign lands? If emergencies unknown at the time of granting the license occurred subsequently, why was I not recalled? It is only in frank and truthful actions that a loyal government can account for the trust committed to it by the popular will. If, as has been pretended, the independence of Mexico required exercise of all human energies; if to its cause all other interests should have been made subordinate, why was denied me the authorization I desired, through which, in a foreign land, I might have proved of advantage to Mexico? It was because it was feared that I might acquire influence, which did not suit the interest of others; ill disguised as it is, the fact is true.

To what other cause can this be attributed? Was it because the government had need of my services to take the head of affairs, should a vacancy occur, or was it to fulfil my judicial functions? It will be seen that the court had never assembled, for it was impossible for it to do so; it will be seen, moreover, that I had a license and passport to leave the seat of government and traverse territories and seas to a foreign country. Was it because the government conceived it necessary to intrust to me some commission of national utility? It will be seen that I had no employment at Chihuahua, nor when I quitted that place. Was it because the government had not received my letter? It is proven that the letter was received, as well by the testimony of Señor Prieto as by that of numbers of other respectable citizens of Chihuahua. Was it because there was lacking in me aptitude, representative ability, or national confidence? Possibly I may have been wanting in the first, and confess it ingenuously and in all modesty, but perchance the deficiency was not perceived when states, governors, and the people have honored me with evidences of their confidence in my representative ability.

There can be wanting neither representative ability nor national confidence in a man who has been elected deputy to the constituent congress of Zacatecas and the federal union; to one who has acted officially as minister of war; to one who has been elected, by popular suffrage, governor of one of the principal States of the republic; to one upon whom has been bestowed, by the General Don Santos Degollado, the most ample functions for the military command of the States of San Luis Potosi, Durango, Aguas Calientes, and Zacatecas; to one who, a little while thereafter, had been appointed general-in-chief of the federal army of the republic, and charged with extraordinary powers for finance and war; to one to whom we are indebted for the definite triumph of reform and legal order; to one who has received, during this emergency, the military command of the States of San Luis, Aguas Calientes, Zacatecas, and Tamaulipas, with extraordinary powers for war and finance in the three last, together with every branch of administration for the government of the former; to one unto whom has been confided the command-in-chief of the army of the east, and invested with the full authority necessary to govern the States of Puebla, Vera Cruz, and Tlaxcala; to one to whom the popular vote has conferred the presidency of the supreme court of justice; to one upon whom the popular voice has concentrated as among the candidates for the presidency of the republic. No; against a man who has been intrusted with all these dignities cannot be charged lack of representative ability or national confidence—which cannot rationally be expected in a stranger who holds in this country neither position nor family, and to whom the welfare of Mexico is a matter of perfect indifference.

It was during September that I prepared to leave New York for Mexico, when I was detained by an order for my arrest upon civil process, as was noted by the newspapers at the time.

I believed that the order would have been disposed of briefly on account of the manifest injustice of the claim, which was decided afterwards as unjust ac-

cording to the legislation of this country. I pressed the matter forward, but it was retarded by the intricacies of the law, exerted to my disadvantage. The hand of intrigue put in motion all the springs to obtain that object, assisted by that of treason. All concluded, finally, through the honesty and impartiality of the judges, who dismissed the complaint on the 3d day of November, when the order was revoked. The latest letters received in New York from El Paso del Norte intimated that the government was to remove to the frontier post of Piedras Negras. Thither I proceeded, and there received notice that Señor Juarez had retrograded to Chihuahua, as the French had evacuated that city. At the same time I received some vague intelligence concerning the decrees and circulars of the 8th of November.

While in Piedras Negras I addressed a letter to Don Andreas S. Viezca, invited him to an interview, and awaited his coming upon this side of the river, at Eagle Pass. Señor Viezca was a chivalric, honorable, and intelligent man, and, I believe it useless to add, appointed governor and military commander of the State of Coahuila by Don Benito Juarez, by virtue of the extraordinary powers conferred upon him.

Señor Viezca presented himself at the conference, and alluded to the circular and decrees I have mentioned, and desired to learn, in his official capacity, which he held on behalf of the nation, in what light I regarded the circular and decrees of the 8th of November. I replied that for my part I did not come to disturb public order; that I travelled alone and *incognito*, having refused the forces tendered me by my friends, as well as the use of orders and recommendations from most distinguished persons in the United States, who had offered me an escort while upon American territory; that I desired Mexico to regard an exhibition of this nature as a testimony of its political advancement in the republican system; that I would present myself with no other forces than my own support; without other title than that given by the law; and trusted that Senor Juarez would deliver over to me the supreme power, for no other reasons than those assigned by the provisions imposed upon him by that same law.

To the honor of Mexico be it said that it had already witnessed a spectacle of this character when a victorious army, flushed with success, called Don Benito Juarez, president of the supreme court of justice, to the presidential chair, which he acquired through no other title than that given him by the law, the same as the republic confers upon other citizens. Senor Viezca stated to me that he had no desire to enter upon an official conference, neither would he touch upon the question of legality; he would only say to me that he had received an order, decree, or circular, to warrant my arrest, which had, as he said, been issued by the government of Don Benito Juarez within appropriate time—that is to say, during the month of November; that he was disposed to obey the summons and to make the arrest. His secretary added, "not only to make the arrest, but to cause me to be shot."

I replied to Senor Viezca that it was necessary to terminate, in a decorous and dignified manner, a question so deeply affecting the interests of Mexico; that it was requisite that he should allow me to pass through the State he governed, thence to travel to Chihuahua, with the aim of seeking an interview with Benito Juarez, so that I might demonstrate to him by word of mouth the evils which he would cause the nation, should he persist in the course he had taken, or whether he could not remedy the error he had committed. I told him, finally, that if he would assume the responsibility of the step I indicated, I would cross the river and place myself within the State of Coahuila, and not upon foreign territory, where he would be at liberty to arrest me, dispose of my person, or take me prisoner to Chihuahua, so that I might demonstrate to the nation that I comprehend my duty and would comply with it.

Senor Viezca refused to accede to my proposition, but indicated to me that I might pass through Chihuahua by the plains of Texas.

In fact, there had been issued an order, decree, or circular by the government, the exact form of which had escaped me, but whose contents I remember, authorizing the arrest of those sojourning in a foreign land without special leave from the government, and those *who were living abroad by leave from said government given to traverse the foreign territories.* This order, decree, or circular had for its object my person, and, although unjust, it was legal on a certain point, for the convenience of the government *de facto*, but at the same time general. A multitude of leaders and officials had previously abandoned the government in Chihuahua after rendering long services, without resources, but with hearts filled with faith, at the advance of the French troops towards that city, which they deserted to go across foreign territory, and thence to return to the country to continue the struggle for independence. Others had suffered privations on the frontiers of Mexico, after fighting with bravery; others again went involuntarily into foreign countries, either to cure their wounds or to gather fresh strength to continue in the struggle for our liberty.

With ample concurrence of the government, many of the most influential men of the country had gone to foreign territories; notably, General Don Placido Vega, who held a commission, I believe; General Don Pedro Ogazon, General Don Manuel Doblado, General Don Felipe B. Berriozabal, who extorted a passport to reside in a foreign country, and many others of more or less influence, some with passports and others expelled, or forced out by the government. A general who had lost his army, raised by his individual efforts, and could have raised more had he not been beneath the ban of the government, did not declare that he went forth to engross the files of treason, neither was he exiled to a foreign land, but forced thither by more efficacious means. In place of giving him troops, for the government had none, or the means of raising and organizing them, it placed him in a humiliating and undignified position, to which the government contributed from its seat, successfully erected in city after city. This conduct resulted in weak men, without restraint upon their passions, augmenting the catalogue of traitors, both as military men and politicians, while others of the refugees went forth into foreign lands, protesting to the thinking world against the invaders of their country, and against the government, whose imbecility rendered it responsible for these shameful disorders.

I had frequently spoken to Señor Juarez as to the bad impression caused by this exode of influential persons, and prayed him to put a stop to it in the most determined manner. At that time General Doblado and Colonel Rincon Gallardo, both governors of the State of Guanajuato, quitted Monterey. But he did not decree at that time against the evil, as he has now done, when his object is to entrap my person.

Placing my hand upon my heart I have inscribed this manifesto, and have asked myself many times, has it not been done for the best interests of Mexico, my place of nativity, the receptacle of the ashes of my forefathers, wherein is preserved all I hold most dear and sacred, memory of my past and present, and are not my conclusions justifiable? My conscience answers in the affirmative. I have defended the government of Juarez with the loyalty of a gentleman, with my sword and my voice, for six or seven years; I have sanctioned it with my signature; I reverenced it as that of my native land, while loyally supporting the standard of the law, the palladium of public rights; but I do not honor those who make a burlesque of their fellow-citizens, who break through the obligations of their oaths, who betray the law, be they called either Comonfort or Juarez. I neither honor, nor will I ever honor, those who dishonor my country, who have made it a scoff to the world, asserting through example that Mexico has no laws which cannot be trampled down at the will of a mandarin, although at this very time Mexico is deluged with the blood of her children, in defence of the banner of law and order.

I have been one of the chieftains of the people. I have raised thousands of

men to go forth and battle for the principle of legal order against one of the most powerful nations of the earth; I have seen the blood of my countrymen wet the soil of their birth; I have seen the resting-places of the dead desecrated, our towns and cities pillaged and burned, and all this in defence of that principle. I have, therefore, a double duty which my conscience dictates, in view of these numerous and sanguinary sacrifices.

I have not heaped upon the government useless or unnecessary charges, dictated by a personal sentiment. The public is my judge, before whom my writings will be exposed, when the heat and anger of passion have passed away. I have defended law and order because it was my duty; if others have been remiss in their duty, it has been no crime of mine to remain silent. I have defended my person, not as an indivdual, but as an officer charged by the public will with the salvation of a principle. I have retraced at length the errors committed by the government, and for its personal motives, but not until that government has consummated an official act which tends to destroy the law in the place of preserving it. I have protested against this act, that the people shall learn the errors of past and present government, so as to draw their conclusions from experience gained by the nation during a brief but melancholy apprenticeship.

I have no desire to tarnish the glory of my country. Glory, indeed, belongs to a nation which has maintained a four years' struggle with a powerful enemy, who has used every endeavor to divide its defenders and maintain a ceaseless combat. Glory, indeed, belongs to a nation, not one of whose States, towns, or cities has given adherence to intervention unless beneath presence of foreign bayonets. Glory, indeed, to a nation who has preserved its cities, ever open to the access of the authorities, even if they do not come at the cannon's mouth, but in the name of the law. Glory to a nation who, having lost its army, without moneys, stores, or material, improvises bands after bands to rally around the standard of independence—of heroes, born with the emergency, springing from the bosom of the people and willing to lay down their lives in a martyrdom for liberty.

Neither have I tarnished the glory of Señor Juarez, who has himself destroyed it, and with it his previous good fame. His glory was that of a governor who should have placed himself at the head of his legions to show to his fellow-citizens, by his own example, how to defend the independence of the country or perish in the attempt.

But he exercised no judiciousness in the selection of persons, for we have seen generals in a foreign land, who had served loyally and patriotically, remain without their services being rendered useful to the country, as well as those who had filled high official positions. We have seen governors, who had faithfully performed the functions of their office, superseded by others of his creation; moreover, we have seen generals, ministers, and governors, named by him, deserting to the cause of treason. The glory of Benito Juarez was derived from the democracy, which ever progresses with reform and liberty—from that government of the people which takes the law as its guarantee.

If, then, Senor Juarez has tarnished his own glory by following in the footsteps of men travelling on the wrong road before him, I am not the only Mexican who has involuntarily obeyed the instinct of duty and narrated that which the government has done by its own acts. Nevertheless, the glory of Mexico remains immaculate, for it cannot be stained by the errors of a man, nor decried by the intrigues of others.

Mexicans, I believe that I have fulfilled the obligations I contracted with you. I believe I have done so during this solemn trial of the country, when prudence should dictate conciliation with those remedies required to rectify infraction of the law.

Fellow-citizens, believe me I speak from my heart. If the salvation of our common country demands as a sacrifice on my part that I shall never again tread

the blooming turf of my native land, nor breathe the balmy air of its sunny clime, and no longer defend in your midst our nation's banner, cheerfully will I submit to the sacrifice, and seek a death-spot in some foreign land. But if, on the contrary, you believe that the cause of law and order has need of my presence as a rallying point, if you believe that my coming to Mexico will dissipate the evil consequences inflicted upon it by the government, I am yours through the convictions of honor and duty. Act with circumspection, and whatever you do, let it be to reclaim the honor of Mexico, and you will work out its salvation.

JESUS G. ORTEGA.

SAN ANTONIO DE BEXAR, *December* 26, 1865.

[Enclosure No. 2.—From the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, Paso del Norte, May 10, 1866.]

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT—GOVERNMENT BRANCH—SECTION FIRST.

Circular.

On account of the decrees communicated to you on the 8th November last, one in relation to the extension of the term of office of the President, agreeably to the spirit and letter of the provisions of the constitution, as long as war prevents a new election, and the other touching the responsibilities of General Jesus Gonzalez Ortega, he has addressed a protest to the undersigned and a manifest to the nation. The protest is dated at Eagle Pass, in the State of Texas, the 21st of December, and the manifest is published at San Antonio, Texas, in the United States of America, on the 26th of the same month. General Ortega was living in that country at the time, and had been there for a year, without a commission or license from the government, while all good citizens of the republic were fighting for its independence and its institutions against foreign invasion. I have not received the protest, but have seen printed copies of it and the manifest in the hands of private individuals. I will not wait to receive the protest in order to notice it, for, in October, 1863, General Comonfort, then minister of war in San Luis Potosi, wishing to correct some errors in a printed document published as an official report of military operations at Puebla, waited some days, during which time he was killed by the enemy, and the despatch was published some time after by General Ortega, in Zacatecas, addressed to the minister of war, and it was never received by the government.

General Ortega could not refute the principles of the decree and accompanying circular in his protest and manifest. He pretended they were not worth noticing, and only said he wanted "to give the nation the sense of, and a commentary upon, our constitutional law;" and added: "Whenever legal principles and solid reasons are wanting, we must use any other arguments to support our cause." General Ortega certainly did not wish to examine the subject logically; he only wanted to evade investigation, and he pretended to assert that the legal principles and precepts of the constitution were at variance with our constitutional law.

Avoiding a proper discussion of the subject, he continued: "I now have to treat of facts alone." That means he perverted the precepts of the constitution, invented precepts it did not contain; concealed some facts and distorted others, inventing many, so that his manifest might appear a plusible document, satisfactory to his revenge, when, in fact, it is an infamous libel, full of calumny and vituperation.

The sole object of this circular is to correct what General Ortega said about public acts, which he misrepresented; and from it may be gathered what he would write in his manifest, which most probably is also a gross libel on private acts and intentions. The government ought not to descend to such a level, and

Ortega has disgraced himself by the condescension. He said he would not contest the principles of the decrees, but would adhere to facts; yet, knowing this would satisfy nobody, he pretended to controvert, indirectly, a few of the precepts in his manifest, but did not allude to the first decree.

On the 30th of November, 1864, General Ortega, then in Chihuahua, demanded the government of the President. He alleged that, in case of an extra election, article 80 of the constitution said: "The President will perform his functions until the last day of November of the fourth year from the time of his election." According to that, a President elected in 1861, and taking his seat on the 15th of July of that year, Ortega seems to think that 1864 will make the fourth year after the election.

Among other arguments used to him at that time, I told him, that as a year could not follow itself, it was evident that 1862 was the year to follow 1861, and 1864 could not be the fourth following, but the third, so that the presidential term would close on the 30th of November, 1865, by the literal tenor of article 80 of the constitution.

General Ortega quoted the same words in his manifest as a contradiction to the government when it extended the presidential term. Without contesting the motives for this, he tries to make the declaration of the presidential term and its continuation as opposed in principle to each other, when he does not regard the difference of circumstances—that war prevented a constitutional election.

The simple meaning of the words refutes his argument. The extension of the presidential term was beyond the ordinary close of it; presuming, of course, an official ending, otherwise the functions could not be prolonged. The decree of the 30th of November, 1864, stating the duration of the office, so far from prohibiting an extension of the term of office, provided for the case in which it would be necessary and expedient. In the decree it was expressly stated, "that the powers and authority of the President were extended beyond the constitutional term, till another could be elected, or as long as the situation caused by the foreign war prevented an election." I explained in the decree why the extension of office was necessary; then it was to be determined what was to be the time of office. The government could not anticipate events of war, and so could fix no time for a new presidential election; and I therefore declared the government reserved its opinion in regard to extension, "because the time for elections had not arrived, nor could it be seen when the war would allow elections, and so the decree was proper and legal, by the letter and spirit of our institutions."

General Ortega said all he could against the acts of the government, to deceive those who had not read the resolution of the 30th November, 1864, and the decree of the 8th November, 1865; but he cannot deceive the intelligent, who readily perceive the spirit of his manifest.

He knew from the first why the presidential term was prolonged, and did not pretend to protest at the time, nor make a single objection to it; neither did he demand the reins of government on that occasion; on the contrary, when he did petition for power, he knew the opinion of the government in regard to the close of the presidential term, and he promised to abide by the decision it made. It is thus shown that his petition was a mere form to save himself from responsibility.

He afterwards said the time was out already, and the President had not another year to serve, and he quoted several articles of the constitution to support his assertion, saying, "our political pact has fixed it in very clear precepts," and added: "As the president of the supreme court of justice is elected by the people, the only source of authority among us, he is the person to succeed the chief magistrate in the exercise of his thorny and difficult duties, in case he is in default; and he also says, to fulfil this honorable duty, he would wait till the 1st of December, if other reasons did not compel him to speak before that day."

The other reasons considered at that time by General Ortega as above the plain precepts of the constitution, and the duty imposed upon him by his honor, the law and the national vote, were to remove all cause of discord, "to remove ills that might happen to the dishonor of the country, under existing circumstances, and to secure power, if possible, in the hands of him who had the right to exercise it." Considering the reverses and misfortunes of the republic, General Ortega's last thought is found in his communication, where he says:

"If Mexico must fall in her struggle with France and a few discontented sons, let her fall decently, shrouded in her flag, and not leave a trace of suspicion that her fall was caused by discord among the defenders of her rights."

In November, 1864, after the Majoma disaster, the government had to move to Chihuahua, because intervention seemed successful almost everywhere. There was yet no opposition made to it abroad; and at home, many began to think they would be obliged to submit to it.

In December, 1865, those of little faith began to have hopes of the republic. The civil war in the United States was over; and that war was the real origin of intervention. It was seen at home that intervention could not last long, because it was hated by all good Mexicans, even those who had pretended to adhere to it. The struggles of the last year had encouraged the faint-hearted, and the number of the heroic defenders of the republic had greatly increased.

In November, 1864, General Ortega did not protest against the design of prolonging the presidential term, which was made known to him. He said, at the time, that the reins of government ought to be given up to him, but he would not resist if it was decided he could not hold the supreme power. He said the law, the national vote, and duty, were in his favor, but he would not insist, because it might bring discord into the republican ranks. Thus he spoke to the President, who, he said, "was a man that had honorably fulfilled the precepts of the law."

He next declared that he wished to battle in the interior of the republic, and asked to go inland, by sea, through a foreign country. Permission was given him to pass through a foreign country. He accepted it and left. Once out of the republic, he remained abroad without leave or commission.

In December, 1865, General Ortega crossed the Mexican border and published his calumniating protest and manifest against the government. He remained two months in the United States, till he found the defenders of the republic did not intend to support him, and then he went to New York to reside. He had already resided there one year, without leave or commission, after resigning his place as president of the supreme court of justice, giving up his rank as general, and deserting his flag and the cause of the republic. It was then decreed, the 8th November, that he would be subject to trial by court-martial when he returned to Mexico.

General Ortega does not pretend to deny that he was away without leave, but he excuses himself, he says, in a private letter to the President, the 8th May, 1865, asking for some commission abroad.

He says he sent the letter by a person who lived in Chihuahua, and got two answers, one in August and one by the following mail, from the bearer of the letter, the first answer encouraging him to expect some commission abroad, and the next informing him he would get nothing. General Ortega well knew the government would give him no commission abroad, because he was president of the supreme court, and might succeed to the presidency, and ought to be at home. He was permitted to pass through a foreign country, but not to reside in it, and he knew the government was well represented abroad.

What he says in his manifest about mail delays may be true, for the government was very busy at that time, on account of General Negrete's defeat in Coahuila, New Leon, and Tamaulipas. Brincourt was advancing on Chihuahua

with a large force, and it was necessary to watch his movements in that quarter.

The President had to leave Chihuahua on the 5th August for Paso del Norte, and as soon as he reached there he wrote to General Ortega. This was on the 7th September. He did not write sooner because business prevented, and he did so then from mere civility, for the proper answer to his letter of the 8th May was given by its bearer.

General Ortega denies having received the President's answer, but says he heard from him by the bearer of his letter. His only excuse for remaining away is in his said letter, where he asks for a commission to allow him to remain abroad. He knew very well he could not obtain such a commission, and he ought to have known his duty better than to allege such excuses. The petition was in a private letter, and he says he did not think it necessary to write officially, though he did so when asking leave of absence from the republic.

This is one of the many contradictions in his manifest. In another place he says the government is prejudiced against him, and wanted to turn him out of his place of chief justice; that all sorts of opposition was made to his advancement. One of these is his commission, given the 30th December, 1864, to fight the enemy in the interior of the republic. In fact, he was granted more than he asked; permission was given to him, as chief justice and general, to quit the country and raise forces for the defence of the good cause. It was stipulated he should act with the legitimate authorities, and not independently, as was right and customary, and he did not seem to object to it. The general continues his cumulation of complaints in his manifest. He says: "The government prohibited me from defending the nation. How could I raise forces? Where could I get them? What means had I? Yet I did not despair, but I waited."

Did he think to defend the national cause by leaving the country and asking permission to reside abroad? If he was not satisfied with his instructions, why did he not ask a modification of them? But he goes off, and then pretends he did not understand them.

General Ortega gives two meanings to the commission of 30th December, 1864: one is, he is to fight the enemy inland; the other, he is to do it by passing through a foreign country. He requested both, and his subsequent actions show which one he intended to adopt. He explains this in his manifest. What he wanted was, to be paid to stay out of the country till the war was over. This is evident from his letter of the 8th May to the President.

What he says of prejudice against him cannot be true, since all these favors were granted him by the government. If he thought so, as he says, he certainly would not have written the said letter.

As to the decree that he should be judged by the proper laws on his return to the republic, he says the President has no power to issue such a decree. But the congress conferred upon the President full powers to do whatever congress itself could do; therefore he has power to determine the responsibility of public functionaries and their duties.

In General Ortega's case the government has acted according to the provisions of the constitution. By article 105, congress has the right to depose the chief justice and have him tried for misdemeanor by a competent court. The government did not declare Ortega guilty; only it said he should be tried, if he returned. About his staying abroad, the government only said just what congress might have said by article 104 of the constitution, that he was amenable to the laws of his country for staying away without leave; but did not judge him and sentence him, as he has asserted.

The only restriction congress put upon the executive, when endowing him with full power, was to forbid any contravention of the constitution. This was to prevent any irregular proceeding against any public functionary. The gov-

ernment could no more violate the articles of the constitution than congress could, and in this case no provision of the constitution is violated.

It would be an inconceivable absurdity to suppose that congress should leave public functionaries unpunished during the war, when the consequences of their offences might be very serious. It would be ridiculous to permit traitors to retain their offices, men who leave their country to enemies, when it was their most sacred duty to defend it. If so, the government would have failed to punish Santiago Vidaurri for treason, and would have respected many others who have abandoned their country's cause.

Another of General Ortega's pleas for defence is, that only congress has the right to depose a chief justice. He says he never resigned his place, and was not removed by congress; consequently, he still holds it.

One more excuse of General Ortega was, that the places of chief justice and governor of Zacatecas were inconsistent, and in that case he preferred to be governor, and resigned the judgeship in San Luis Potosi. This incompatibility of positions is explained in the resolution of the 30th November, 1864, which was published in Chihuahua, and afterwards repeated in the decrees of the 8th of November, 1865.

By article 118 of the constitution no man can hold two elective offices at the same time, but must say which he will fill; this I stated in the decree. I also said, that though federal offices were meant, the article applied to State offices too.

General Ortega, with the untruthfulness that prevails throughout his manifest, said, that, to apply the incompatibility to his case, "resort was had to constitutions not now in force." Just the contrary was alleged in the resolution and circular quoted. I said it was necessary to accept the federal office, and not the State office, when elected to both, according to the old constitution. As former constitutions must have been consulted when the new one was formed, the defects of old ones were avoided in the latter. In July, 1863, when Ortega was governor of Zacatecas, he resigned the judgeship, but was informed by the government he could not do it consistently. He was told that war would prevent a new election; and if he resigned, there would be no one to succeed the President, in case of his default. He was told, if he wanted to be governor of Zacatecas, he must be so by appointment, and still hold the judgeship.

From July to December, 1863, General Ortega was often written to on the subject, yet he continued to act as governor of Zacatecas without appointment, and did not even answer the letters. The same was insisted on in the resolution of 30th November, 1864, and he has never noticed it officially. In that resolution Ortega was declared to be chief justice, for reasons and by authorities above stated. Now he says there was no need of it. He says in his manifest he had often before filled two offices and no mention was made of incompatibility, and quoted authorities that proved nothing. He was appointed judge in 1861, till a new election could be held, and acted as governor of Zacatecas at the same time; but that proves nothing in his favor, for only one office was elective. He also says he was governor of San Luis and military commander of Aguas Calientes and Tamaulipas at the same time. But these were not elective offices, only temporary appointments by the government.

In 1862, after General Zaragoza's death, he was elected chief justice, and the government made him commander of the army in Puebla and governor of that State. He mentions this also in his manifest, but he does not see that all his offices, except that of judge, were by appointment, and only temporary, of course.

At this point we note another of the many contradictions of the manifest. He tried to make others believe that the only reason the government had to object to his holding two offices was its opposition to his advancement. Among all the imputations adduced in the manifest is one that the President wrote from San Luis to Severo Cosio, telling him to continue as governor of that State,

instead of Ortega. The latter wants to make an intrigue appear from this natural act, when Cosio himself wants to refuse the honor offered him. According to common report, Ortega did nothing for the good of the country while in Zacatecas, but rather acted against the interests of the government. For that reason many thought it would be better to make Zamora governor, as he had once been constitutional governor of that State; but it is absolutely false, as Ortega states, that commissioners were sent there to investigate his conduct with a view to his removal. On the contrary, the government thought Ortega would do what he could for the general good while in Zacatecas. There were many other good citizens there at that time who could have filled the place as well as Ortega. When he accused the government of wanting to dismiss him from the judgeship, it was trying to induce him to retain it by appointing him governor of Zacatecas. Wishing to avoid all misunderstanding, it offered to do so in the resolution of 30th November, 1864, and he made no reply, because he could not.

The fact is, he had private business in Zacatecas, which became very public soon, and his secret designs were to oppose the wishes of the government. In reference to what is called a decree, but was nothing more than a convocation of magistrates, he said: "They wanted to abolish the elective office of supreme judge and fill the place by appointment, and thus give Juarez the power of removal whenever he pleased. Such have been the aims of the government ever since it left San Luis; and so he convened the judges forming the supreme court by a decree issued in New Leon and Coahuila, for that purpose. I was then commanding a division against the French in the interior of the republic. The sole object of that meeting was to have a president of the supreme court appointed by Juarez, and subject to his removal."

To show that Ortega is mistaken in his understanding of the writ, which he calls a decree, it is hereto annexed, No. 1, and was issued at Monterey on the 10th of July, 1864, and published in the official paper of that date.

It is not true that the publication was made while the government was in the States of New Leon and Coahuila. Ortega said that, to make believe the government was busied about him, when it only reached Saltillo on the 9th of January, Monterey the 2d of April, and the publication was not made till the 10th of July. Neither is it true he was with his forces, fighting the French inland. He said that to make one think he was rendering good services to his country, and that the government was trying to injure him while absent defending it. On the contrary, the same paper shows that he arrived at Parras on the 6th of July; on the 30th of June he was at Viezca, and a few days after the publication of the circular he arrived in Monterey. He left Zacatecas without a fight, passed through Durango without offering aid to its chief town, then in a state of siege, and came directly to the site of the government.

Neither is it true that the circular refers to Ortega; its object was to revoke the permission given to the judges in San Luis on the 18th of December, 1863, to elect a domicile till the capital should be fixed and permanent, and fill vacancies till another election could be held.

Before and after the circular Ortega's situation was the same as it was when he was in San Luis, when he wished to resign the position as president of the court and become governor of Zacatecas.

In fact, his manifest is full of inaccuracies, which his heated imagination conjures up to blame the government, but not to be believed by any person of common sense. One of these is accusing the government of complicity in Uraga's treason. Why he did this, no one can understand. The army that Uraga commanded was the same that had been in Queretaro and the vicinity, from June to November, 1863. It had been raised and supported by the government with means in its power. As all the States where this army operated were in siege, they were naturally under the direct orders of the government.

Even if the government were prejudiced against those States, as Ortega asserts, why should it betray them to the enemy? And he dares to say the government favored Uraga's treason. This assertion is too absurd to need refutation. And he says Berriozabal and he warned the government that Uraga was going over to the enemy, and no measures were taken to prevent it. He says of Berriozabal: "He sent an official communication, very respectful, but in energetic language, requesting the publication of documents that would convict himself or Uraga." All this is false; General Berriozabal never said any such thing. The truth of this may be found in the official paper of the 15th June, 1864.

The government was informed of Uraga's intended treachery long before Berriozabal's case, and Ortega's insinuation. He was too far from the seat of government to prevent his defection. The government did all it could to prevent it, and did save much of the army that intended to go over with Uraga.

Ortega says: "Information of Uraga's intended treason was sent to the government by the patriot General Arteaga." That is true: he sent a special messenger with the report from Monterey, on the 2d July, 1864, and Arteaga was placed in Uraga's position, where he continued to fight ten months, till he was killed, while Ortega was living in peace abroad.

It would require a volume to contain all the falsehoods in Ortega's manifest. General Arteaga's commissioner arrived at the time of Berriozabal's trial, on the 11th of June, when Ortega's letter came. The government then issued the decree of the 1st July, deposing Uraga and putting Arteaga in his place, and it was published the 27th July in the official paper.

Ortega came to Monterey in July and learned all about it; and yet he makes another vile assertion that the government would not listen to his insinuations against Uraga. This is another proof of the spirit in which the manifest was written, and how much its assertions are worth. He says when he went from San Luis to Zacatecas to raise troops, the government sent secret agents to frustrate his plans. If he had given the true title of these agents, as he called them, his prevarication would have been too patent. These two agents were the district judge and the collector of taxes, and they had nothing to do with Ortega. He made no objection to the judge, but he would not let the tax collector act; we don't know for what reason.

While the government was in San Luis, from December to July, 1863, many public and private notes were addressed to Ortega, but he did not condescend to notice any of them, as was his custom. Once he sent two commissioners to San Luis to ask the tax collector to be removed, so he could use the funds of the State for national defence. This was only to gain time, like his letter from New York, in May, 1865. The government, of course, refused his request, yet he continued to use the public funds. He insists that the government acted against him, when it was he who opposed the government, in open violation of law. He makes bold to say the government told his commissioners it needed no more soldiers, so as to have an excuse to refuse his petition. This is not so. He said he told his commissioners to inform the government he would forward the sums it wanted, if his requests were granted. I had no interview with his commissioners, so I could not tell what they wanted; but I know Ortega continued to use the State funds for his own purposes, in direct violation of law, and contrary to express orders. The government might have consented to his proposal, but it did not believe in him, and it has never had an account of the money he used. It was well known in Zacatecas what use he put the money to, and that not one dollar was used to raise forces. Months thus passed, and he had collected no men in Zacatecas, till the French came upon him in the beginning of 1864, when he was suddenly compelled to raise a small force; and he says, in a boasting way, "in one or two months I raised, equipped and armed a complete division!" The boasting general left the State of Zacatecas a few months after, without fighting a single battle.

I have already mentioned that the capital of Durango was besieged when he passed through that State, and he offered no assistance. General Patoni, governor of that State, after duty in Chihuahua, was returning to Durango, then held by Mascarenas in his absence, when he heard that 2,000 French were coming to attack it. Ortega, then at Saucillo, wrote to Mascarenas on the 11th July, 1864, as follows: "I am told you intend to evacuate the city. I beg of you not to do it; I will answer for it with my head. I have 3,000 men and sixteen pieces of artillery with me." With this force, if his account is not exaggerated, he could have given great assistance to Durango. He knew the enemy in Zacatecas and Fresnillo could not be re-enforced from Mexico, and their garrisons were too small to move out; but General Ortega set out for Viezca as soon as he made his offer, and arrived there the 30th June. He then went to Parras, in the State of Coahuila, and the French took unresisted possession of Durango about the first of July.

In 1864, while the government was at Saltillo, Ortega sent a commission there. This he mentions in his manifest, but does not say for what purpose it was sent. The object of this commission was to demand the reins of government. His reason for this, he said, was because the French refused to recognize Juarez or treat with him, and something should be done to save the country. Ortega's real object was to side with intervention if he could not have the government in his own hands. Garcia de la Cadena was one of the commissioners. I had a private interview with him, and advised him to seize the government of Zacatecas the first time Ortega went out of the city, and promised him support, and to appoint him governor in fact. He refused, because he said it would produce civil war in the State.

This story of Ortega has no more truth than his others. The government pardoned Cadena for acting in that embasay on account of his former good services. What the government did in the case was this: it proposed to commission Cadena to act as governor in case Ortega should quit the State, as it was expected he would do, and which he did. Cadena refused, from his respect for Ortega, and said he thought it best to wait till the vacancy should occur, and not anticipate events. General Ortega's subsequent conduct shows how well founded were the government's suspicions; but the government could not foresee that General Ortega would quit the republic voluntarily during war and remain abroad living in New York, with the title of president of the supreme court and governor of the State of Zacatecas. In the first of his manifest he makes two accusations against the undersigned, and of a personal nature, namely: it was not strange I had signed the decrees, because I had formerly been "one of the persons engaged in the Comonfort rebellion." Comonfort atoned for his mistake; he gave up the government to the president of the supreme court and took the field, where he fought and was defeated. He then left the country; but when it was invaded he returned and bravely died in its defence. I did not aid Comonfort, but dissuaded him from his first plans. This is well known to all public men; and the President of the republic was so well satisfied with my conduct he has several times called me into his cabinet. And congress, too, must have been satisfied with me, else I would not have been its president so often, as was the case on the 31st of May, 1863, at its last sessions. The second accusation was that I had issued the decrees, or signed them, "to show my power as minister." I had already been minister nine years, and the acts of its office were not novelties to me. The second time Comonfort offered me the ministry I refused it, and Ortega may learn from the papers of 1861 that I have twice refused it under the present administration. I accepted it in San Luis because I thought it my duty to do so under the trying circumstances that were afflicting the country. I refused it when peace and plenty prevailed. While the government was at Santa Rosa, between Monterey and Chihuahua, in the State of Durango, I put Ortega at the

head of a division, and he was badly defeated at Majoma. In his manifest he says he was placed in command of that division "so it might be destroyed and he killed with it," and he adds that I was chiefly instrumental in his defeat.

One of the reasons why we put him in command of those forces was because he had brought part of them from Zacatecas with him, and the government always favors those who try to do the most for it. The only regularly educated military man there at that time, of equal rank with Ortega, was General Negrete, then minister of war. He could not have been put in command, for there was a mortal enmity existing between him and Ortega. This was not mentioned in the manifest. Ortega wrote me some letters at that time, because he would have nothing to do with his enemy, the minister of war, and I was obliged to answer his letters. It is not true, as he reports, that he expressed a fear at the time of being defeated; he was confident of success. He was the first to propose the expedition to Durango and Zacatecas. He was appointed to command at Santa Rosa the 4th September, 1864, and on the 8th he wrote to the President as follows: "The enemy's advance is at Durango, and his rear is exposed for many leagues—as far as Zacatecas—supported by 200 men there, and 200 more in Fresnillo, which we can attack with safety, as no aid can reach them from Durango unless the garrison is sent from there, and then that place falls into our hands. Our situation is good, and the interior of the republic is in motion on account of our advance, as I hear from Zacatecas." From this expression of confidence the government hoped Ortega had changed for the better, and intrusted him with powers it had previously feared to grant, as commander in the States of Chihuahua, Durango, Zacatecas, Aguas Calientes, San Luis, and a part of Coahuila.

To give one more proof of the untruthfulness of all he says, I annex Nos. 2, 3, and 4, documents from this department and of war, making him commander-in-chief of the forces in the States mentioned. These will show that he was not limited in action in any way, and that General Patoni was under him. He was defeated at Majoma the 21st of September. It would be unnecessary to tell of that disaster now. Ortega says his forces retired in good order from that fight and were disbanded the next day.

As I said in the beginning of this circular, my sole object has been to correct what Ortega said about certain public and official acts. The government is in possession of all the facts necessary for his conviction when he is brought to trial. It seemed easy for him to bring up all sorts of imaginary imputations, though he did not see how fallacious they would appear at the first glance. After telling all sorts of frivolous stories and insinuating he had others in reserve, he exclaimed, "*Would to God I could tell all I know! then would my conduct be lauded, and that of Juarez and Lerdo de Tejada be condemned.*" In regard to this affected reserve, the government is perfectly willing he should tell all he knows; it is willing to let him talk till he thinks he has nothing more to say.

He talked of everything in his manifest except the principal subject on which it was written, namely the unconstitutionality of the decrees. Neither did he explain why he deserted his country and his flag in time of war, and took up his residence in a foreign country.

It was absolutely necessary for the President to prolong his office to sustain the cause of independence against the invader, and it was of just as much importance to settle the question of Ortega's responsibility by another decree, so as to know who should succeed to the presidency in default.

The President also justly thought proper not to trust the nation's destiny to the hands of an individual who had abandoned his country in its trouble, and left it to reside in a foreign land till war was over, when he hoped to return and rule over it.

All those exercising authority in the name of the republic, and commanders

of forces fighting for it, known to the government, have accepted the decrees, and have considered them proper and just. In spite of this, Ortega insists on calling them revolutionary acts. If they cause a revolution it will be very different from others; they tend to preserve the country and secure its independence. The President has shown for several years that he has the energy and constancy necessary, in times of danger and sacrifice, to sustain the country, and does not wait like others for a good time, to attend to his personal interests. In 1861, as soon as the revolution was over, he called a convention of the people to elect a President. Now he says he will do the same, and all know he will keep his promise. The President will always submit to the will of the people.

Independence and liberty! Paso del Norte, April 30, 1866.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

The GOVERNOR *of the State of* ———.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, FOMENTO, AND PUBLIC INSTRUCTION—SECTION FIRST.

Circular.

On the 18th of December, 1863, the magistrates composing the supreme court of justice were authorized to assemble in San Luis Potosi and elect a domicile till the supreme power was permanently located and could reorganize the court.

In compliance, therefore, of the said decree, and considering the circumstances in each case, whether the magistrates were appointed or elected, the President decrees that Juan José de la Garza, Manuel Ruiz, and Florentino Mercado, the first and sixth judges, and attorney general, shall reside in this capital, to be ready for business, and Manuel Portugal, José S. Artega, José Garcia Ramirez, Pedro Ogazon, Manuel Z. Gomez, and Pedro Ordaz are the other judges. All absent ones must present themselves in this capital within one month from this date, or lose their office. Afterwards the supreme government will attend to the reconstruction of the court.

And as you are one of those comprised in this decree, it is made known to you by supreme command, for your information and consequent action.

Independence, liberty, and reform! Monterey, July 10, 1864.

IGLESIAS, *C.*

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT — GOVERNMENT BRANCH—SECTION FIRST.

For the purpose of sustaining the war in defence of the national cause, and considering your well-known patriotism and services, the President of the republic has been pleased, with the consent of the ministerial council, to grant you full powers to dispose of all the rents in the States of Aguas Calientes and San Luis Potosi, of which you are governor and military commander, State taxes as well as public revenue, to raise means for army purposes, and to impose whatever taxes you may deem necessary, and to dispose of all the munitions of war, and all the forces that exist or may be raised in those States, whether of the national guard, regular army, or any other kind, together with all officers, civil and military, as you may deem most proper.

Independence, liberty, and reform! Santa Rosa, September 4, 1864.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

JESUS GONZALEZ ORTEGA, *General of Division, and Chief of the First Army Corps of the West, Present.*

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT—SECTION FIRST.

The President of the republic having determined to appoint you general-in-chief of the first army corps of the west, and General Patoni as second, granting you ample powers in the States of Aguas Calientes, Zacatecas, and San Luis Potosi, has been pleased to accord to you at the same time, in ministerial council, the command of Patoni's forces and of the States of Durango, Chihuahua, and in the district of Parras, in the State of Coahuila, and to do as you please in those places with the troops under Patoni, or any others; and this is done that there may be unity of action in the States of Zacatecas, Aguas Calientes, San Luis Potosi, Durango, Chihuahua, and the district of Parras for the prosecution of the war and the defence of our independence and our institutions.

Independence, liberty, and reform! Santa Rosa, September 4, 1864.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

JESUS GONZALEZ ORTEGA,
Chief of the First Army Corps of the West, Present.

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT—SECTION FIRST.

Taking into consideration that, on account of recent circumstances, the governor and military commander of the State of San Luis Potosi may have ceased to exercise the duties of his office, the President of the republic is pleased to authorize you to take charge of it as soon as you hear of its vacation, and appoints you governor and military commander of the State, requesting you to give notice to the supreme government as soon as you begin your duties, that it may act in the premises.

Independence, liberty, and reform! Santa Rosa, September 5, 1864.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

JESUS GONZALEZ ORTEGA,
Chief of the First Army Corps of the West, Present.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

DOCUMENTS RELATIVE TO THE COUP D'ÉTAT OF BENITO JUAREZ, EX-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO.

A WORD TO THE MEXICAN PEOPLE.

I publish the accompanying documents, believing them necessary to the end I contemplate.

With me it is an established principle never to depart from the pathway my conscience and sense of honor dictate, no matter what adverse influences may be brought to bear upon me.

I make this statement, actuated by no egotistical motives, but simply because I conceive that my native land, in the hour of her calamity, demands, and should receive, an explanation as to my future line of conduct. Silence under such circumstances would reveal a cowardly disposition, and, consequently, I feel myself compelled to give an exposition of my motives, even though I may incur the risk of reiterating statements to which I have alluded in a previous manifesto.

I assure you that my course is shaped to compass no ignoble ends; neither will I permit personal considerations to intervene in the discharge of my duty, for I shall suppress nothing which does not taint our national honor.

A few months since I said to Señor Viezca, while upon the frontiers of the

United States: "I do not come with a ridiculous design of overturning established order; I have arrived, solitary and unrecognized, after having refused the physical force tendered me by my friends, so that I shall not be regarded as an element of disturbance. Should you yourself proffer me the strength of your State and your own influence to establish a government, I should decline the offer. My only object, at the present moment, is to visit Senor Juarez, to avert, if possible, the evils which he would inflict upon the country, and to inquire of you your opinion as to his conduct."

The man who acts in this wise takes as his guide the good of his country; moreover, I give way to none, asking whether or not they would recognize a government of my establishing.

A most easy task would it have been for me to create a new government in Mexico, possessed of more or less strength than that possessed by the one of Juarez. I say an easy task, inasmuch as Mexico is a nation faithful to and conscious of her rights, and I hold a legal title and a well-defined authority, derived directly from the Mexican people, which Senor Juarez does not. I have governed many of the interior States of the republic, commanded national armies, and my political influence has bestowed upon me the confidence of the people. Moreover, during my residence at San Antonio de Bexar, I have been personally visited by many leaders, among them generals of well-earned repute, soliciting my return to the republic to operate as a centre of legitimacy, and the salvation of our independence. I have, furthermore, received letters from officers, commanding armies in the field, actuated only to secure the safety of our principles, inviting my return to the republic, which documents I do not employ, as they were of a confidential nature.

The task was, furthermore, easy, inasmuch as I had witnessed the reprobation following this violation of the law by Senor Juarez, not alone from persons occupying high positions in Chihuahua, which State was the official residence of that gentleman, but from the members of the legislature of that same State, as I have ample evidence to demonstrate, did it not involve a breach of confidence in giving private letters to the light. One of the members of that legislature, of the highest social and political standing, came to me as a commissioner, after a travel of a hundred leagues, for the express purpose of invoking my return, as soon as it became apparent that Senor Juarez designed trampling upon the rights of the republic. That representative stated to me that the State of Chihuahua would not acquiesce in the usurpation of Senor Juarez, but would, on the contrary, repudiate all his acts, which I believe it has done.

And the task was easy, as a final reason, because the late President destroyed the sole means whence he derived popular prestige, and if he lingers in political existence within a corner of the national territory, it is that he is tolerated from exceptional motives, to which I need not now allude.

However easy to me would have been the establishment of a government, it was not such an easy task to convince myself as to the necessity of assuming a prominent part in a drama representing the government with conflicting executives, and at the same time contending with a foreign power, even though one, having no excuse in lack of national virtue, arrogated to itself, amid the darkness of the pending struggle, powers which had originally been conferred by the people. Yet, had I believed the honor of Mexico, and the honor of Mexico alone, demanded my temporary abstinence from establishment of a legitimate government, in the hope either that Señor Juarez would restore to the nation that which he had unlawfully appropriated to himself, or that the nation would arouse to a sense of injured dignity, I likewise believed that the majesty of Mexico should have rebuked the scandalous acts of Señor Benito Juarez, as it has already done in similar cases. Let him be rebuked, inasmuch as the establishment of a legitimate government, by him overridden, has cost the nation more than half a century of blood-stained conflicts. Let him be rebuked for

having vitiated that very principle for which we are sacrificing human life in a contest with one of the most powerful nations of the earth. Let him be rebuked, for were he not, the nation forfeits title to its own existence, inasmuch as a people permitting its laws to be desecrated at the option of its ruler can neither guarantee its own integrity nor hope to advance towards the standard of civilization enjoyed by nations jealous of their well-being. Mexico, however, thanks to its own endeavors, is progressing steadily in accordance with the spirit of the age, as will be demonstrated by the documents I now publish. Let the nation rebuke the treachery of this man for the sake of its own honor, even though it suffers a passing penalty for his transgressions; for a nation struggling for a principle, consecrated within the hearts of its citizens, must inevitably resuscitate with a tenfold vigor. Not so with a people who succumb at the dictation of a man usurping authority through the vacillations of its sons, to its own and individual aggrandizement, for that people stand for all ages disgraced in the eyes of God and man.

Mexico will, doubtlessly, preserve her independence, preserve her principles, preserve her honor. Should the caprices of fortune render the salvation of her independence an impossibility her honor may be saved at all hazards, for all the strength of the world is impotent to destroy the honor of a people who, like the Mexican nation, has struggled around a flag whose tattered folds will bear to the end the inscription of a solitary cardinal principle. Triumphant it will shine in effulgent glory; down-trodden, it will carry to remote ages the noblest title to heroic martyrdom.

It may be insinuated, as some have already done, that if Juarez has acted illegally, an admission of the fact would dishonor him and thereby inflict injury upon the nation.

Will my silence, or the silence of six or eight other men, propitiate a nation whose privileges and laws have been trampled under foot by the individual to whose custody they have been intrusted? Can a silence of this nature confer prestige upon a man violating his oath and reprobating his duties? Can it prejudice a nation to protest energetically against wrong perpetrated in its name? Has it prejudiced Mexico in the eyes of the world to have protested against the creation of a throne upon the land of Hidalgo, and to have proclaimed that the rights of Mexico have been assailed through the usurpation of a foreign armed force? Does the sentiment of Mexico and the world depend upon expression of our judgment? Will our silence alter the nature of political acts, rendering bad good and good bad?

The reputation of a public functionary depends neither upon the silence nor the expression of any one citizen, but upon the unequivocal and impartial judgment of society, when popular sentiment canonizes, so to speak, the right and legal procedure of that functionary. None can be ignorant of the fact that when the trials of a nation are at their highest pitch it is far more noble and honorable to exhibit herself worthy of herself, condemning all acts that she would have discountenanced when in the plentitude of majesty and power, or against the dignity and spirit of the law. The heroism of a country, like unto that of a man, is rarely evoked unless beneath bitter trials, imposed upon it through emergent circumstances.

I herewith publish the correspondence between Señors Juarez and Prieto, relative to the letter addressed by me to the former, through the medium of this latter, respecting tender of my services to the government while outside of the territorial limits to which I have alluded in my manifesto. To demonstrate the accuracy of my statements in this latter document, it would suffice the public to know that the epistle had been received by the government. This is not only shown by the correspondence, but the additional fact that it was received in May or June, and according to Senor Juarez's authority was not responded to until September, thereby proving that reply to a communication of vital im-

portance was intentionally delayed for several months. Moreover, I was assured that that which I requested should receive the requisite authorization, without any intention on the part of the government so to do, and that, while I was awaiting this authorization I should remain outside of Mexico, in order that Senor Juarez might publish, in a decree, that I had abandoned the presidency of the court, dwelling permanently in a foreign land without license, and I had not even informed the government as to when I intended returning within the republic. I have already stated that I never received an answer from Senor Juarez.

JESUS G. ORTEGA.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO.

Circular.

I herewith send you a copy of the protest and manifesto which I have deemed it incumbent upon me to make public, in regard to the *coup d'état* perpetrated by Senors Benito Juarez and Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada.

National as well as State legislation having been necessarily suspended during continuance of hostilities, nothing remains to direct the administration of public affairs save those high functionaries elevated to power through the votes of the people. It is for this reason that I address myself to you, inquiring as to the course of conduct you have adopted with respect to this outrage upon legal order, and whether you repudiate or indorse the act.

The nation preserves an inherent right at all times, and especially during hours of trial and anguish, to demand from public officials the expression of their opinion as to matters touching the common weal. This right conceded, I conceive it to be obligatory upon me, as president of the supreme court, to collate all available information upon that head. Did I not do so, I would regard myself amiss in the discharge of the sacred duties imposed upon my position, and most particularly so when we contemplate the circumstances at the present moment affecting the country.

If I, in this instance, avail myself of my title as president of the supreme court, and not of that of President of the republic, to which position I possess a perfectly legal right under the constitution, it is because I do not deem it expedient, while the national independence is in jeopardy, to elevate contradictory standards, even though the one be emblazoned with the motto, "Order," and the other with "Abuse of Power," and treason against organic law. Yet my forbearance does not necessitate the republic to recognize as legitimate the official acts of Benito Juarez after the 30th day of November last past. Considerations as to the national welfare, both now and for the future, will ever instigate my actions; nevertheless I will always struggle to reconcile the cause of independence with the absolute salvation of the law.

Do not on any account presume that this note is designed to solicit your opinion upon an unprofitable business, neither that I have constituted myself into a judge as to your conduct. No! the object of this epistle is much more noble and elevated. The nation is undergoing a terrible ordeal; her organic code has been ruthlessly violated, and that at a moment of the nation's crisis, struggling against a foreign invasion and battling to conserve the form of government instituted by that same organic code, without which independence would be a nullity. The assumption of a solemn oath, my duties, my honor, my patriotic devotion to the interests of Mexico, render it obligatory upon me to exert my most earnest endeavors to preserve inviolate the constitution and laws, whose creation has cost our nation so many and bitter sacrifices. At the

same time a similar sense of duty impels me to exercise an equal devotion towards a preservation of our national independence; consequently, I have attempted to effect both purposes simultaneously, rendering the one subservient to the other. It is for this reason that I have not appealed directly to the masses, who might manifest their disapprobation of the Juarez usurpation in a tempestuous manner. To avoid tumultuous demonstrations from the populace I have addressed myself to the officers of the people, citizens charged with supervision of popular rights, whose foundation rests upon the observance of the constitution.

During peaceful times and those of national quietude, the organic law lays down both the order of succession and the manner wherein each authority and functionary attains exercise of the duties intrusted to them by the people. During an emergent period these provisions may be departed from. Yet the precedent of history in similar instances has demonstrated that the most appropriate method of saving popular rights is one wherein the opinions of the representative departments have been consulted. With this aim we have observed governors and local representatives of the respective States, either in accord or separately, protest against ignominious acts wherever they had the power so to do, when such acts were found to be in conflict with the spirit of the law as the exponent of the will of the sovereign people.

For the reasons I have given I now address myself to you as a representative of the people, even although you are momentarily debarred from the exercise of your functions, so that in your official capacity you may communicate to me your sentiments upon this matter. While so doing you may discard formalities, as much for the reason that they cannot at this present moment be complied with, as from a consideration of the grave circumstances which encompass our common country.

Independence, liberty, and the constitution! San Antonio de Bexar, February 3, 1866.

J. G. ORTEGA.

The CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNOR *of the State of* ———.

From the constitutional governor of the State of Durango.

As a satisfactory reply to your communication of yesterday, inquiring as to my opinion of the *coup d'état* of Juarez, the manner in which it impressed me, and my projected line of conduct for the future, I herewith transmit to you a copy of a letter which I forwarded to Señor Juarez from Presidio del Norte, dated December 15, of the past year.

Independence and liberty! San Antonio, February 4, 1866.

J. M. PATONI.

The Citizen J. G. ORTEGA,
Constitutional President of the Republic of Mexico.

PRESIDIO DEL NORTE, *December* 15, 1865.

MY DEAR FRIEND AND SIR: The circumstance of the French troops being at the gates of Chihuahua at both my arrival and departure from that city, the implied bad taste of manifesting my sentiments during the critical moments signalizing our last interview, and lastly a determination not to take the initiative in enunciating my discontent at your *coup d'état*, believing that task to be more properly allotted to persons of more consideration than myself, impelled me to preserve silence on that occasion, while at the same time my duty instigated me to indite a confidential epistle to you on a matter affecting national interests.

It is not within my province, neither do I boast capacity adequate, to analyze the decrees of the 8th of November. Nevertheless, however masterly may be deemed the manner in which the law has been perverted, however applicable and sagacious may be the deductions drawn from the spirit of the law by your cabinet, in everything not comprised within the circle you have described for your personal advantage, every honest citizen perceives that the law has been violated; that there does not exist in your person title sufficient to exercise the functions you have usurped, and that the country is threatened with the danger of anarchy, when constitutional order could and should have progressed in all its majesty. The grand principle, secured through triumph of the plan of Ayutla, was the perpetual abolition of persons. By it popular sovereignty—the soul of democracy—was recognized as a practical truth, and military mobs condemned by the just severity of the people as illegal combinations, who, with more or less plausibility, and stimulated by ambitious leaders, subjugated a populace incapable of resistance.

When I abandoned my peaceful employment and sacrificed my private fortune in furtherance of these principles, and their sustenance through force of arms, combating with like vigor through adversity and success, I was buoyed up with the trust that the law would be our guide, conscious as we were that it would be sustained by the popular vote.

The citizen soldier can never be rendered an instrument for the destruction of the laws. Called into existence by the nation, he can never convert himself into a traitor to its interests, and as a defender of the government he can never be induced to conspire against its interests. According to my method of observation, and viewed by my conscience, I have no doubt but that your retention of power after the 30th of November is a usurpation; that the naming of your successor is an assumption unknown to our code, and but initiated by Santa Anna during a period of the greatest disorder, and that this commingling of anomalies exposes the country to anarchy, besides depriving it of strength, and compromising our name with foreign countries.

I adjure and pray of you, Señor Juarez, by the lustre of your good fame, by the well-merited position to which your virtues exalted you, and by the interest of our common weal, to which your devotion has been an earnest of hope and a source of pride, to retrace your steps upon the road along which you have started, as in your footprints it is impossible for me to follow

I take greater pains to communicate to you my resolution, inasmuch as it should recall to mind memory of the past. You have ever found me at your side, unvacillating and obeying your every order while you represented the law. You will remember that I have always been one among the first to fly to your defence, and during moments when it happened that personal friends had deserted you I was too anxious to hasten to your company, eager to identify my destiny with that of the principles which you have guarded heretofore with fidelity. When you ceased to represent principles you deserted me; so that our separation has not been wrought through apprehension of danger, or through momentary emergencies, but because I did not wish to appear as a traitor against laws you taught us to respect.

This manifestation of opinion, which I submit with the greatest respect and with the best of feeling, does not in the least weaken my resolution to serve my country with the same loyalty I have ever given evidence of; neither will it prevent my union with those who are fighting against the invader with a determination to vindicate our common rights to the utmost extremity.

Denying beforehand any intimations of disrespect, and with no wish of giving personal offence—on the contrary, actuated by the sincerest well-wishes for your future, I assure you in honesty and frankness that my sense of loyalty compels me, without compromising myself with party or person, distinctly to state that I will obey no orders emanating from you as the government, but

will continue to defend my country according to my own inspirations, co-operating with those who legitimately—indispensable condition according to my judgment—do so for the salvation of our independence.

I do not wish to conclude without acknowledging, independently of my official duties, my personal gratitude for the attentions you have shown me. With sincere feelings of esteem, I remain, as ever, your affectionate friend and servant,

J. M. PATONI.

Señor BENITO JUAREZ, *Paso del Norte.*

From the ex-constitutional governor of the State of Michoacan, republic of Mexico, general of division.

NEW YORK, *February* 26, 1866.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the circular, dated 3d of this month, you have communicated to me, inquiring my opinion as to the *coup d'état* perpetrated by Señors Benito Juarez and Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada, through their decrees of the 8th of November of the past year.

In response, it becomes my duty in the first place to inform you that my term of office, as constitutional governor of the State of Michoacan, expired on the 16th of September of last year; that in consequence of the war with a foreign power, I asked leave from the legislature to absent myself and devote myself to the formation of forces for the independence and tranquilization of our fatherland. Being so just and necessary an object, the license was granted by the State congress, and in compliance with an article in the constitution of Michoacan, they appointed as my successor the citizen Deputy Antonio Huerta, who, by virtue thereof, entered upon the functions of that office, receiving at the same time, and from the same legislature, authorization to continue in office until a new election is held—that is, provided I should be killed in action, or my term of office should expire by reason of the prolongation of the war.

Having said this much, it is with pleasure that I respond to the circular of February 3, in the capacity of the former constitutional governor of the State of Michoacan, and as one who received that exalted position through popular suffrage.

In inditing this letter I do not wish to weaken the force of the laws committed to my custody by the people, for I neither desire to maintain a position to which I am not entitled, nor usurp an influence not justly my own, and which only derives honor and respectability when indorsed by the popular vote.

For these reasons, while enumerating my opinion with regard to the *coup d'état* of Señors Juarez and Lerdo de Tejada, you will accept it as the sentiment of a supreme authority, who has been intrusted with the governorship of an important State, and as an expression of opinion from the only governor elected by the popular voice who could speak in its behalf.

The State of Michoacan regards with deep bitterness the *coup d'état* perpetrated at El Paso del Norte, as antagonistic to the principles of the State constitution, and bedimming the traditional respect with which the laws have ever been regarded by the citizens of that State. I am intimate with the sentiments of my fellow-citizens, and well know their obedience to the legitimate authority, inasmuch as I am a native of that State, and have had the honor of being at the head of its affairs for eight years, during which period the rule of constitutional order was never once disturbed. On the contrary, the sons of Michoacan, enthusiastic admirers of law and justice, have ever presented a firm front against the aspirations of ambition and the intrigues of disaffection. Let the foolish attempts of Comonfort attest the truth of this declaration. In all

things, neither has Michoacan nor myself judged otherwise than that the laws of the republic owe their creation to naught save the will of the people, and we believe, moreover, that laws once framed cannot be violated by any person at his own will.

Senor Benito Juarez, who has broken through the constitutional defences of the country by a blind mis-step, and who now unfurls a revolutionary banner with a hand pledged to sustain that of law and order, has not, neither can he have, my assent to his decrees of the 8th of November last past. At the period of the never-to-be-forgotten epoch of Ayutla, for the purpose of assisting in crushing out a despot, oppressing the Mexican masses, I marched to the battle-field, not only to seek glory in triumphing over tyranny, but to acquire a ground-plan whereon the people could erect a nation, so that in the pages of a sacred code they could read their rights and duties.

No infraction of the laws nor disobedience to the supreme power has thrown a shade upon my public life; on the contrary, wherever the fundamental laws of the nation have been menaced, the sons of Michoacan, with myself, have ever been foremost in their defence.

Benito Juarez, victim of the scandalous *coup d'état* of Comonfort, is well aware that among the ranks of the constitutional army, organized to defend the supreme authority, I have been always ready for the sustenance of the laws, and willing to die before consenting to their violation. It is in such high esteem I hold the cardinal principles of right, acquired through shedding of Mexican blood.

The consequences of our present war are not mute witnesses of my devotion to the laws. A prisoner of war at Puebla, and transported to France as such, I have never recognized any other cause but that of the republic, nor any other authority than that imposed upon me by the voice of the people, and congenial to the fundamental code. Notwithstanding that, obedience has natural limits, and thus, as I would consider it a crime to oppose legitimate authority, I would regard it a still greater crime to obey one who usurps illegally the sovereign power.

Benito Juarez has finished his career, for nothing, according to my conception, can authorize his perpetuation in authority; neither can he exclude the person to whom the law gives the succession in a determinate manner. Consequently, Senor Juarez is but a private individual, and the presidency of the republic has reverted to the constitutional president of the supreme court of justice, who is the only man entitled to direct the destinies of the country. Therefore, as the last constitutional governor of the State of Michoacan, or, as general of division in the army, you will please accept my opinion, which I have set forth in reply to your circular, appealing to those placed by the will of the people to watch, through all time, over the national rights within their respective jurisdictions.

Please accept the expression of my high esteem. Independence, liberty, and the constitution!

E. HUERTA.

The General of Division J. G. Ortega,
Constitutional President of the Mexican Republic.

Constitutional Presidency of the
Supreme Court of the Mexican Republic,
San Antonio de Bexar, February 3, 1866.

I herewith send you a copy of the protest and manifesto which I caused to be published in this city, respecting the *coup d'état* perpetrated by Benito Juarez on the 8th day of November of last year. I sent through you from New York to Senor Juarez the document alluded to. As it was not of a private

character, but relative to public and national affairs, I trust that you will supply me with all details in reference to its reception, accompanying the information with any document you may possess.

Clothed as you are with an official position, I hope that you will likewise favor me with your views as to the act of Senor Juarez, of which I have made mention, and as to that which you have done either in approving or condemning the same.

The nation has a right at all times, and more especially during its hours of trial, to learn the conduct of public officers.

As for myself, and placed in the position of president of the court through popular suffrage, I believe myself compelled to gather such information, so as to comply with the obligations imposed upon me by my duty, and the circumstances of the national situation.

Independence, liberty, and the constitution!

J. G. ORTEGA.

GUILLERMO PRIETO,
Postmaster General of the Mexican Republic.

OFFICE OF POSTMASTER GENERAL OF THE MEXICAN REPUBLIC.
San Antonio de Bexar, February 15, 1866.

The misfortune of suffering in my eyesight deprives me of the pleasure of answering your official note autographically, and as extensively as I would wish; consequently, I am obliged to send you copies of the documents to which you make allusion.

The first is a copy of a letter sent to an intimate friend in Chihuahua, and exhibits in the amplest manner my opinion with respect to the *coup d'état*, free from all other motives than those of sorrow at the unexpected retention of authority by Senor Juarez. I have the honor of assuring you that my conduct has been entirely consistent with my ideas. At the time I suspected the incredible weakness of the chief magistrate of the republic, I demonstrated to him personally, and in the most earnest manner, the consequences of his design. I made public my disapproval of the scheme, and to avoid scandal sent in my resignation, which was not accepted; while, in my discourse of September 16, I alluded to the advantages Senor Juarez would obtain by swerving from the path of usurpation. I caused my name to be stricken from the head of the official newspaper when publication of the decrees of the *coup d'état* were made. I had published that paper gratuitously for two years. Finally, crossing the desert, I retired to a foreign country, separating myself from a class of persons attempting to impose upon the nation as law scholastic cunning, which the people will have the good sense, doubtlessly, never to accept.

The other documents which I forward are copies of letters exchanged with Senor Juarez. They will bear me out in saying that I placed the letter which you intrusted to me in the hands of that high functionary; that he was aware of your being in a foreign country, with the intention of remaining there for a time; that he never exhibited the slightest disapprobation of your conduct; and, finally, that he did not answer you until the 7th of September, at a time when it was publicly known that the idea of the *coup d'état* existed with the cabinet.

I believe what I have said will cover the object of your note; as for myself, I have the satisfaction of knowing that I have performed everything possible, consistent with my duty.

Independence, liberty, and the constitution!

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

General J. G. ORTEGA,
Constitutional President of the Republic of Mexico.

[Strictly confidential.]

PASO DEL NORTE, *October* 31, 1866.

MY DEAR FRANK: This will be no letter, but a panorama of the terrible shock which I suffer in a painful manner. You will comprehend my meaning by reading the enclosed decree, issued by Benito Juarez on this date—a decree which it is, at this moment, impossible for me to analyze, as I feel as if I were in the midst of chaos. The decree, as you will perceive, is apparently according to the law, besides being solicitous for the well-being of the army, and in accord with the purest sentiments of patriotism. Ostensibly it is a measure which does not transcend the natural faculties of the executive, against exercise of which opposition would be made only from selfish motives. But a careful perusal will disclose the jesuitical mask covering the presidential question, so as to cloak, during the nation's most solemn trial, in the most audacious and treacherous manner, by surprise, the prologue to the *coup d'état*. It is thrown forth as a secret poison to assassinate legality; it is designed as an ingenious dagger to pierce unnoticed, but to leave behind an incurable wound The allusion to Ortega is transparent on every line. It is he who is away in a foreign land, leaving with license and absent for four months. It cannot mean Berriozabal, for he was recalled by express orders; neither is it Huerta and his companions, for they are excluded. Ortega is the party denounced, as any reasonable being can at a glance detect.

This man, whom the unalterable law declares to be President of the republic; this man, whose title was confirmed in a solemn manner by the government but a short year since, when public opinion accused him of being ambitious—whether with reason or not we cannot say, as memory of his defeat at Majoma remains fresh, as accusations *from which he was absolved by government* are still being fanned by hate and malice—this man, I say, is not judged nor condemned, but his power is torn from him, as one dangerous to the common weal, or unworthy his trust. No! the law is spread as a trap so as to render him helpless; when, thus enchained, he is wounded and robbed of his legitimate functions.

Do not think for a moment that I am pleading for Ortega as an individual. I defend him as he at this moment stands, the personification of right. I neither favor him nor dread him, nor have I evidence to show him preferable to Juarez, but in all justice I regard him as an exponent of the law, whom they desire to override with a cowardly intrigue, concocted in secrecy and out of the popular sight. The decree is a confusion of ideas, which renders its unravelling difficult. The presidential question is a simple one; the constitution places a definite and positive term to the presidential office, so that a usurpation is impossible. It expresses that, no matter what may happen, the president of the court shall be the substitute for the President when the term of office of this last expires, and no election is held for his successor. The subterfuge of declaiming the incumbents to remain in office until a new election is not expressly set forth, but implied, in my estimation: First, because this case is like all others, and provided for in the constitution; secondly, because, when the law regulating elections was adopted, the contrary was held; and, lastly, because, in the famous answer of Lerdo to Ortega, government denied the right to change the law.

Ortega left the country upon leave of absence, advised the government of his residence, placed his services at its option, wrote directly to Juraez, and still received no sign of its disapprobation. To all of this you are a witness.

The previous career of Ortega in Chihuahua gave no evidence of irregularity or insolence; he respected the resolutions of the government; he acquiesced in its mandates, and left to make himself useful. But that nothing should be wanting in this violation of the law, it is concocted with ingenious perversion, which is sought to be excused by sophistry and perfidy. Was it anticipated or

found inconvenient that Ortega should not come into power? Then why did they not trump up a thousand reasons or plausible pretexts to incapacitate him? Was it not rumored that he committed an error while exercising power as governor of Zacatecas, and thereby destroyed his right to the position of president of the court? Was it not reported that he should have been court-martialed for his conduct at Majoma? If so, why did he continue vested with authority and recognized as successor to the presidency?

We will suppose that Ortega deserves the prosecution so openly instituted against him. What is the power for his judgment? Has not the constitution prescribed the method of procedure? Is there no restriction imposed upon the faculties which the government has arrogated, thrusting the future into the embrace of usurpation and absolutism? Why deceive the nation with this assumption of perjury and falsehood? Is it possible that the presence of a foreign enemy renders us blind to the theft perpetrated upon the national laws, upon the most precious of conquered rights? Is not all this formality and falsification the proper weapons of usurpers?

Juarez has heretofore been my idol, both on account of his virtues and his having been chosen by the law, for his standard was our glory and our rights, and were we to fail, we must succumb in defence of the law. What remains of our political edifice? Whom shall we respect? Does it make any difference whether the usurper be named Santa Anna or Comonfort, or Ceballos, as of old, or Juarez, the suicide of to-day? We will suppose that Juraez was a political necessity, and that his administration was immaculate. Did he derive reputation apart from his official position? We will not hazard the presumption that a change would prove distasteful, or that our exterior relations, being paralyzed, would prove the cause of anarchy. Has not usurpation the same or greater dangers? What would be the result from the discontent of the adherents of Juarez in the city of Mexico, where they are very few in number? Is, then, discontent comparable to the disaffection of Negrete, of Zacatecas, of the division of the army in the State of Sinaloa, and of the remainder of the republic? Yet all this occurs through the action adopted by Juarez. The partisans of principle will not recognize Juarez in the future, for they advocate principles, not men. Such being the case, will it justify a deliberate rising in favor of Ortega?

What are our foreign relations? Who will assure us that the United States will continue their sympathy after this *coup d'état*, as they always follow principles, and not persons?

And what an instrument to our disadvantage will be this act in the hands of our enemies when knowledge of it becomes diffused to the world at large.

Anarchy? It is a word, under the circumstances, which terrifies more than it injures; it exists already, and through it may be saved the national honor.

There can be no anarchy when there is unity in thought, and this unity employed to put down the invasion. If Arteaga and Regules, Fernando Ortega, Riva Palacios, and Rosales, and all the chiefs, had been subjected to or omitted our orders, what would have become of the country? Anarchy is horrible when the ambition of different men is loosened to run riot. Then the struggle between the strong and the weak commences on the same soil. But the country without a head would have an insurrection, and that this would be common will be the supreme good of the country. Would not the nation be convulsed to see the flag of the invader disappear; only to give place to another equally illegal and equally detested?

In any case should evil befall the country, Juarez and those who have allured him to his ruin will stand the blame, and not those who follow the path of duty and honor respecting the public will of the country, which is expressly mentioned in their fundamental code. I even go further, and suppose this extraordinary feat of jugglery of Juarez to terminate happily. Is it honorable to follow him? Is it right to acknowledge such a vaulting over the law? Ought we

to tolerate this act, thus authorizing others of a similar nature which would very soon follow? For my part I will not.

I have been so candid with you so far that not even the fear of the constitution's being broken stops me. Our cause is so grand that the glory of driving out the invaders would be unfading, and this might tempt me to act against the laws. But no; that would be reputation for the life of the country. I have not done it yet. I am not frightened.

I am frightened to contemplate Juarez as a revolutionist, inert, crippled, haggling, occupying himself with misrepresentations, or in elevating the baseness of vengeance against a certain person to the height of a state question. Can you imagine Juarez as a revolutionist? What are the rights of this man? What his strength? Are the destinies of a country to be subverted at the call of a scene shifter? Can this rushing of a country into perdition be caused by cautious but deceitful night vigils and thought? Is it virtue to break the law? Is it right to be the judge in your own case? Is it honorable that the culprit should turn the tables on his judge and declare him a thief, because he happens to acquire a temporal power?

I repeat that I grope in darkness and know not where to turn.

How obscure and treacherous is this document; how it omits the name of Ortega; what an innocent and natural air it bears. If we say to the government, Here, that artful idea, that order, is an ambush from behind which you will assassinate the legitimate possessor of what you declare to be your inheritance; then they might say, What do you deduce from? Damn anathemas on the calumniator. Shame and punishment to the suspicious rogue!

I saw this intrigue coming and I threw up my position, because I had neither labor to perform nor means of livelihood. My renouncement of office was not accepted, and I was retained so as to martyrize me, or for the purpose of having me desert my position in an infamous way, so that this desertion might be used as a gag to stop my just reproof of what I knew to be a turning of the truth, the abjuration of the law, the improbable transformation of the legitimate government into a strolling company of actors, who wish to enact plays after the manner of Napoleon the Little, and, O shame! after the style of Maximilian the Rickety!

Can you imagine what I have suffered? Can you imagine my situation when I am the exception among those gentlemen?

I am yours, affectionately,

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

PASO DEL NORTE, *October* 1, 1865.

MY DEAR FRIEND AND SIR: The last two times in which I have seen you, you have manifested that you were displeased with me. This displeasure is caused doubtlessly by my having, in a thoughtless moment, disclosed my ideas at a public entertainment, but which I am proud to say were conformable to the law and the honor of the government. Having lost your esteem, I miss one of the most powerful reasons for being near your person, as well as the small recompense of eight years of public service, in all of which time I have given patent proofs of my loyalty to the cause, and of affection to you personally. Misrepresentation is a degradation, and I have remained here so as not to degrade myself. I beg of you as a special favor that you give an order, causing the labors of the administration of the post offices to cease, which in fact are useless, for I neither have anything to do in that respect, nor have I any salary, and this order will rid you of me, and rid me from being the victim of penury.

I am, as ever, your servant and friend,

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

BENITO JUAREZ.

PASO DEL NORTE, *October* 1, 1865.

MY DEAR FRIEND: I answer your letter of to-day, by saying that I cannot give the order to stop the administration of post offices as you wish, because that would be equivalent to the government commencing the destruction of public administration. Let the enemy destroy it if they have the power, and such should be the destiny of my country, but I shall neither do it nor allow it to be done so long as I am able to prevent it. If you have been wanting in circumspection in the matter of which you speak I can say nothing, as you have a faithful and sincere friend which can satisfy you by approving or disapproving your conduct; that friend is your own conscience, to which I appeal without having the necessity of verbal explanations in this matter, or any other particulars which you may not wish to inform me of, or I may wish to ask of you.

Before closing this letter I ask of you a favor, which is, that you bring to your memory that I never have said to you nor authorized you to say to General Gonzalez Ortega, in my name, that he could remain indefinitely away from his country. It has never been my pleasure to tell any one to do anything but what he liked best. Neither have I authorized any one to pursue the road of dishonor.

I am, as always, your true friend,

BENITO JUAREZ.

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

PASO DEL NORTE, *October* 1, 1865.

MY ESTEEMED FRIEND AND SIR: I did not wish for an order to destroy the administration of post offices, but that the labors of it should cease, which in fact is the case. I have appealed to my conscience, and that is not only satisfied but proud. I have never written one single syllable to General Ortega, neither as coming from myself nor yourself, in regard to your feelings about his indefinite permanency away from his country. Once, in a private conversation between Iglesias (minister of hacienda and gobernacion, in the Juarez cabinet) and myself, I said to him that Ortega had written to you through me, in which letter he expressed a wish to labor for our country in the United States, and asking your approbation. In answer to which letter you told me that you had said to him to act in conjunction with Romero, (Mexican minister to the United States.) I added in that conversation that, taking this reply as a guide, you were not averse to his remaining away from his country. This answer covers the grounds of your letter to me, which ought neither to offend you nor suspect your future intentions, and gives you proof of my proceedings. Any way, if you can in any manner so fix it as to enable me to separate myself from my position, so that it will not appear as if I had been expelled, but only as a matter of delicacy on my part, I shall be very much obliged if you will inform me as to the manner.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

BENITO JUAREZ.

PASO DEL NORTE, *October* 1, 1865.

MY ESTEEMED FRIEND: I am sure that I could never have told you that I would have answered Ortega by telling him to act in concert with Romero. I recollect having answered Ortega on the 7th day of September last, simply telling him that he could not receive the authority which he asked for, and this is the first time that I have ever told any one what I had written to your con-

stituent, (Ortega) I am very happy to know that you have so clear and proud a conscience; for that being the case, you will live tranquilly.

I cannot grant your prayer in regard to the ceasing of the labors of the general administration of post offices, because I have not the wish to assist the invaders of Mexico in discrediting the administration of my country. I cannot tell you, either, to leave your office, because I have neither a motive to tell you so, nor does the government repel you, nor are you a stumbling-block in the way.

I am your affectionate friend,

BENITO JUAREZ.

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

PASO DEL NORTE, *October* 2, 1865.

MY ESTEEMED FRIEND AND SIR: When I, in May or June last, placed a letter from Mr. Ortega into your hands, I am sure that you then said to me that you were going to answer Ortega to the effect that he should act in concert with Romero. If you did or did not do it I cannot say, neither do I know what you said to him in your letter of last month. The former idea, that is to say, that of May or June, I communicated to Mr. Iglesias then, and this is a proof to me that I am not mistaken.

I do not think that there would have been dishonor in suspending the labors of the general administration of post offices, nor with my ceasing to operate would the invaders have been assisted, for by the same reasoning is it not ridiculous to believe that the ceasing of the administration of sealed paper, public lotteries and custom-houses, have also assisted the invasion? I proposed that I should be considered as having resigned, for the reason that the public should not know that there could be a cause of difference between you and myself. To stop all further doubts, and to close a correspondence which occupies your attention, I herewith send my resignation, which I hope, as a great and only favor, may be at once attended to.

I am your affectionate servant,

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

BENITO JUAREZ.

[Copy of resignation.]

OFFICE OF GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF P O,
Paso del Norte, October 2, 1865.

There being no duties to perform in the general administration of post offices, and my presence in this place being of no consequence to my cause—on the contrary, a source of unpleasant feelings—I beg of you to entreat the President to grant me leave to reside wherever I may see fit, and if this should seem impossible, to admit the formal resignation which I make to the office of general administrator of post offices.

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

THE MINISTER OF STATE.

PASO DEL NORTE, *October* 2, 1865.

MY ESTEEMED FRIEND: I perfectly well recollect that I did not tell you what I was going to answer Ortega when you brought me his letter. I said that I would answer him in a courteous and polite manner and nothing more.

I will present your resignation to the proper parties, and in due time will communicate to you their resolution.

Your affectionate friend,

BENITO JUAREZ.

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

REPUBLICAN ARMY OF MEXICO, OFFICE OF BRIGADIER GENERAL,
San Antonio de Bexar, February 6, 1866.

Notwithstanding the several supreme decrees which would have justified me at different times to have separated myself from the Mexican government, yet their indisputable title to legality made me remain at the side of Mr. Juarez, where I would now be were it not for the decrees of the 8th of November, which I consider as an attempt against constitutional order.

When General Comonfort, colleaguing with a portion of the army, shielding himself behind the memory of glorious deeds, and flattered by parties interested, gave his *coup d'état*, I, in my humble position, withdrew from the armed mob, and did not vacillate an instant in giving my support to him who was president of the supreme court of justice, and who shortly entered into the exercise of the presidential power. In the struggle for reform, I had the honor to be one of the number who composed the army that, victorious in the capital, were the first to aggrandize the head of the government, so that in his aggrandizement might be seen the triumph of the law. During the present war, the more adverse to our cause was fortune, the more inseparable have I been to the government, and Mr. Juarez will bear me witness, that on treading the confines of the republic, when it appeared that we touched the limits of our territory and our hopes at the same time, I was one of the few who carried that far their faith and respect for the government which still upheld the tattered but glorious banner of the nation.

The decrees of the 8th of November changed the face of affairs, and threw the country back to the times when an obscure plot displaced the will of the nation; and when reason, which is the law, ceded its place to arbitrariness, which is nothing but a manifestation of tyranny, I found myself more than any one else obliged to separate myself from the so-called government, because to a soldier there was not even the excuse that power was retained so as to continue the struggle, for the same *coup d'état* only asked from the people their *indifference in exchange for the government's inaction.*

I have arrived here, after extreme difficulty, so that you who have the legitimate title to, and imperious duty of saving the independence and laws of the country, might see me at your side in the station and manner which you may see fit, when you head the ranks of the defenders of independence.

Having made this declaration, I comply with the duties which honor imposes on me; and if, through any motive which I beforehand respect, you should not find it convenient to present yourself within the republic, I will go and join any soldiers who carry our flag as their symbol, without having lost for one moment faith in the holiness of our cause through your absence; and thus I shall not be in the sad condition of him who tramples the laws and honor of his country under foot to save our independence, nor of him who compounds with the transgressions of Mr. Juarez.

My acts will, at any rate, serve to explain my opinions, and be a proof that I neither received nor complied with the watchword to break, by force of arms, the rights of the nation.

Liberty and reform!

FERNANDO POUSEL.

General JESUS G. ORTEGA,
Constitutional President of the Republic of Mexico.

ARMY OF THE MEXICAN REPUBLIC, OFFICE OF BRIGADIER GENERAL,
San Antonio de Bexar, December 18, 1865.

In the month of August of last year government left the city of Chihuahua and went to Paso del Norte, giving the order to the chiefs and officers who were attached to and followed it, that they might choose a place of residence in any place not occupied by the enemy, and also that it should not be El Paso del

Norte. In accordance with these orders, several chiefs, and I among them, took the road to Presidio del Norte, and there, in unison with General Negrete, and inspired by our patriotism, we fortunately got together a few arms so as to be able to hostilize the enemy. Two months passed, during which time I became convinced that the resources of the State being frittered away, and the executive taking no initiative part, our efforts would be useless. I vacillated between going into the interior of the republic to join some other forces, or to go to the United States, there to try and procure arms, when I had reason to know that Juarez was seriously plotting his perpetuation in power, which would, in reality, incapacitate national defence, and convert the army into the escort of a usurper. I entered the career of arms with liberty as a godfather. I wished to enter into citizenship on the field of battle, because the war which then raged was for the liberties and regeneration of the masses; and the commencement of my career and the advent of Juarez to power coinciding, I neither had any other name nor other flag to invoke, nor any other cause than that with which he has been identified.

His transformation into a revolutionist was his disappearance from legal right, and an army could only serve him for uses entirely personal. The evils which I then foresaw, the sentiments which from that moment animated me, and my acknowledgment of yourself as President of the republic after the 30th of November, I made manifest to you through a commissioner which I sent to New York in August last, I coming to this city to reside, where I have, as you know, been as useful as I could be to the common cause of our country. This is the simple explanation of my conduct; I think it fully justified, not only from my inward feelings of conscience, not only from the rigid test of the laws, whose unequivocal tenor condemns Mr. Juarez, not only on account of public feeling, which, as it leaks out, shows the bitterness felt for the painful loss of one of our glories—for the name of Juarez was one of our national glories—but on account of the overturning of the legal order, and the danger to independence, because governments to be strong must be just, and usurpation carries within itself the germs of weakness and annihilation. I, one of the least of citizens, but in my expression of national conscience as great as any, have wished to protest by my conduct against the *coup d'état* of Mr. Juarez, so as to be witness that among all classes, and on behalf of all who love their country, there is a unanimous feeling against this overturning of the public right of the nation, against the criminal attempt to divide the lawful cause of the country, and against the probable effect of giving cause for anarchy and fraternal war in the midst of our foreign invasion, and the danger, even if triumphant in this horrible invasion, of receiving the terrible inheritance of civil war and capricious rulers. Having thus expressed my feelings, and fully convinced that you are the legitimate head of the government, I place myself at your orders, so that I may be employed, even if only as a common soldier, in the defence of national independence. Independence and liberty!

M. QUESADA.

JESUS G. ORTEGA,
President of the Republic of Mexico.

NEW YORK, *February* 22, 1866.

SIR: I herewith send you a copy of the letter which I sent to Mr. Benito Juarez on the 7th of October, of last year. You will note the frankness with which I always express myself, and more than ever when my feelings are brought in contact with the politics of my country.

Benito Juarez, blinded in the extreme, has just given a terrible blow, not only against the constitution and nationality of the republic of Mexico, but against himself. I trust that he may yet turn his steps and arrive at a full knowledge

of the gravity of the crime which he has committed. As in my letter I dilate fully upon the conduct which, in my belief, Mr. Juarez ought to observe, I omit repeating it here, but I wish it to be understood that I protest against the decree of the 8th of November, 1865, given by the referred to Juarez, whom I not only consider as an infamous blot in a government which is known as a constitutional one, but as the volume in which is recorded the expropriation of the rights which belong to a people, and which are now intrusted by them to the president of the supreme court of justice.

Independence and liberty!

JOAQUIN VILLALOBOS.

General JESUS G. ORTEGA,
President of the Republic of Mexico.

NEW YORK, *October* 7, 1865.

SIR: The extraordinary events now transpiring in our country is the reason why I direct myself to you, to manifest what my opinion of the actual state of the political horizon is, and what I consider as just and necessary. Do not look on this letter as from a philosopher, which I am not, nor as the result of a partiality. What I wish to say to you now is instigated by my love for my country, and for those republican institutions which fortunately still rule us. Take this letter in that light and hear me.

One of the great motives which has actuated France in originating an intervention, has been the disorder and want of respect to the laws in which Mexicans have always lived. Unfortunately, our reform, which originated the agony and death of the retrograde party, caused, necessarily, a civil war, but which, in Europe, was not so considered as necessary. Each party, which had come into existence up to the time of the revolution of Ayutla, had put forward their leaders, only to depose them in turn, and the conservative party, incorrigible to the last, owes its downfall to the villany of its acts and men. Not so the liberal party, which, convinced that its only guide could be *law*, pursued from the Ayutla revolution a legal path; and neither defeat nor obstacle has made it change from its original resolution.

The desertion of Mr Alvarez, which was rather turbulent, compromised materially our situation, but, fortunately, a pacific arrangement quieted everything and opened the path to the presidency for Mr. Comonfort. This gentleman, who unfortunately misunderstood the part he was to play, and wished to become the gratuitous thief of what he legally possessed, brought to light the famous *coup d'état*, and, in doing this, infringed the law and changed public opinion.

You know perfectly well what the result was of this notorious act. The church party extended its arms to the chief of the revolution, not to embrace him, but to strangle him, and Comonfort, undeceived a few hours after his treason, knew that military force had lost its influence in the country, and that nothing but the law held full dominion. We have here the reason why this apostate of Ayutla opened your prison doors and left you at liberty to join the army which was waiting for you, and who unanimously acknowledged you as the head of government. Nearly all the States lent their adhesion to you and offered to sustain you.

It is undoubtedly the case that when Comonfort violated his oath he left the field open for the ambitious success of many influential politicians, and that it was to be feared that each particular faction, civil or military, should each take a separate and distinct road. However, this was not the case; on the contrary, every republican of any note, capable of successfully playing his ambitious part, constituted himself into a bulwark of the law, and recognized Benito Juarez as the legitimate successor to the presidency of Mexico.

It is needless to follow the course of that struggle; suffice it to say, that in all the defeats of our army, and in all the confusion naturally originating from

so many rebuffs, your authority was never questioned, and even when you had to leave the country and embark on foreign waters and travel through foreign countries to return, it was never disrespected or doubted. Vera Cruz, which was the place chosen by the republican government for a temporary capital, opened its doors to the supreme authority of the nation; it raised its walls and gave its sons for the defence of the law in Benito Juarez. The triumph of the national cause was finally obtained, and the capital of the republic offered a seat in its palace to the legitimate President.

Later, and through legal steps, the election for constitutional President was held. A portion of the people voted against you, but a majority elected you to that position, and you were recognized as President by all parties.

From that time the opposition (to which party I belong) has criticised your official acts through the press, but always lawfully, and never have advised that you should be dispossessed by force of arms of your position.

This, without doubt, would be sufficient to prove the respect rendered by Mexicans for duly elected authorities; but God, who, doubtless, wished to demonstrate in a stronger manner our respect for the law, caused foreign intervention to be landed on our shores, so as to completely prove our solidity. In vain have Napoleon and his soldiers tried to disavow, and caused to be disavowed, the President of Mexico. The invader has overrun our country for three years, in every direction, and has been unable to overturn the lawful pedestal on which our banner rests. All the forces who rise to defend the republic do it in the name of Juarez, the laws which are given forth are signed by Juarez, and an account of all the battles won or lost is made to Juarez, and the Mexican United States, who follow no model not fashioned by the law, acknowledge no other authority nor legitimate power excepting that of Juarez. It will, doubtless, be asked, if it is the *person* who accomplishes all this acknowledgment. Is it Benito Juarez, solely as Benito Juarez, who does all this? Undoubtedly no. He may be possessed of sufficient virtues to command great respect, but what the Mexican United States and society recognize is not Benito Juarez, but the *legality of the law.*

Well, sir, after these hasty remarks and reflections, imagine my surprise to learn that a few Mexicans (residing in New York, calling themselves your friends, and also of our nationality, without being one or other) say, that notwithstanding your term of office has expired, you ought to continue in power, alleging reasons which are far from being satisfactory. These persons, unwittingly, are striving to dim the glory of your term, and would hurl us into sad confusion. No one is ignorant of the path pursued from the time of Ayutla to this date, yet it seems as if this interesting branch of Mexican history is not known by these imprudent advisers. The republic has no other method of being saved except through a respect for its laws, and if consent was given, through a false conviction, to their counsels to violate legality, any one would hereafter have the right to rise as sovereign and rule at his pleasure.

One of the *reasons* given by those who wish you to continue as President is, that General Gonzalez Ortega will not maintain the rights of the nation with safety, and will occasion the loss of a country which you have so worthily defended. I do not wish to judge of this. It may be that they are right, or they may be wrong; but what there is no doubt about is, that your continuation in office illegally, and the resistance to turn over the government which the law demands should be turned over, would make you, not the President of the republic of Mexico, but only a revolutionist. One great proof of the obedience of a people who love republican institutions to their laws is, that after the death of Lincoln, Johnson, without a murmur from the masses, took his seat as President. Europe, which accused the republics of being based on false systems of government, on seeing this changed its tone, and loudly sang a thousand praises in honor of the system which it had attacked. When, finally, the universe has understood that

it makes but little difference to a people, who obey their laws, who disappears, and that order is still maintained; when we have such glorious examples before us, shall we, Mexicans, be the first to defile the republic, and give our more scandalous example to the world? Which would be greater for Juarez—to revolutionize and anarchize his country, or deliver up the trust which the law demands, and thus satisfy both the law and his conscience? How grand a spectacle would it be to see on the wide desert of Mexican politics, where there is scarcely a green spot large enough to spread our book of codes, to see two men open this book, and, changing the leaves, take or leave power without a struggle and in perfect harmony. What chief of Mexico would doubt the validity of this act, and would not take courage to plume his ambition in honorable flight? The occupation by Johnson of his elevated position would be no more an act worthy to be extolled as belonging to the republican form of government than would be offered by you by so just an example. Then would all the severe criticisms of many writers, who exaggerate and even misunderstand our manner of government, be tempered in their censures, and these scribblers no more throw dirt in our faces. Then would the celebrated Richard Cobden be once more in the wrong, for he has declared that the republic of Mexico was ungovernable, and that civilization would never enter its doors.

Yes, Mr. Juarez, you can now be the greatest or most contemptible man of our country. Your conduct can either lower us to the lowest depths or elevate us to the orbits of great nations. Do not become responsible to future generations for evil consequences, nor lend a willing ear to aught but the voice of the law and your own conscience. Fortunately you are in the position to act as few others. You have borne the national standard nobly for three years and one-half, in cities and in mountains, and on the same Mexican soil you can turn it over to your successor. If he takes it to the capital of the republic, not on this account will your glory be dimmed; but if, unhappily, this flag should be dishonored in the hands of the new President, there will remain the satisfaction to you of having been able to fulfil what others could not do.

Excuse my thus writing to you; and I repeat that if these remarks are not the best counsels I can give, they are still to the point.

Respectfully,

JOAQUIN VILLALOBOS.

BENITO JUAREZ.

The Mexicans who sign below, residing at this date in New York, on account of not wishing to recognize either the so-called empire of Maximilian or foreign intervention, and knowing that the legitimate base for the sustenance of democratic principles, and of the nationality of the Mexican republic of Mexico, consists in obeying blindly the fundamental compact which binds the nation together, therefore, whatever Mexican spurns said fundamental compact is not worthy of consideration only as a creditor for the severest punishments: therefore,

1st. We protest against the decree of Benito Juarez, given on the 8th of November, 1865, wherein he declares himself President.

2d. We recognize as President of the republic of Mexico, during the time accorded to him by the law, General Jesus Gonzalez Ortega, president of the supreme court, and consequently legitimate successor to Mr. Benito Juarez.

3d. A copy of this shall be sent to citizen Jesus Gonzalez Ortega, to do as he likes with, and the original shall be preserved for whatever may occur wherein it may be needed.

JUAN TONGO,
Colonel in the Mexican Army.
J RIVERA.
JUAN N. ENRIQUEZ ORESTES.

NEW YORK, *February* 20, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

Supplement to the first pamphlet of documents published by General Gonzalez Ortega, to excite a rebellion among his countrymen against the national government of Mexico. (No. 6.)

Another word to the Mexican people: General Gonzalez Ortega published a pamphlet in this city, containing letters and other signed documents from Mexicans opposed to the decrees of the national government, issued the 8th of November last, concerning the continuation of Juarez's presidential term and Ortega's responsibility. He says he did not publish many answers to letters addressed to persons at a distance, because they were private, as if a public opinion could not be expressed in a private letter, as it is done by Patoni, Prieto, and Villalobos, in their letters, published by Ortega in his pamphlet. We do not think the resolutions drawn up in New York, by Tongo and Jacob Rivera, and Priest Henry Orestes, as a public document. To supply Ortega's omission, we publish this pamphlet as a supplement to his. It contains the replies of Berriozabal, Zarco, Baz, Tovar, Cuevas, and Robert, to the circular mentioned, which Ortega did not publish because they were private. There is also one letter from Alejandro Garcia, addressed to Juarez, expressing his sentiments and those of his constituents, on the subject of the decrees; and one from Gregorio Mendez, governor of Tabasco, to Juarez, on the same subject. We also insert a note of Mr. Romero, Mexican minister, to the government of the United States, and Mr. Seward's reply, on the same subject. A letter from Joaquin Villalobos to General Green Clay Smith, member of Congress from Kentucky, and answer, are added.

We could have inserted many more from distinguished patriots, who are fighting for independence, but we refrain, because our only aim is to complete the collection of documents published by General Ortega, with letters he has omitted. For the same reason we make no comments. Yet it is a mystery to us why General Ortega made such an incomplete publication, compelling us to finish it, and thus make it impartial. The general's antecedents prevent us from suspecting him of wishing to aid the enemy, and yet we must say, that every attempt to disparage the republic is aid to the enemy. Did Mr. Ortega reflect, that if the national government at Paso del Norte is not recognized, there is no other to acknowledge but Maximilian's? Can he assert that Mexico has no government, neither in fact nor in law? If the United States should disavow the government of Juarez, would they recognize that of Ortega, not as good? The probability is the United States would say, "Since there is no national government in Mexico, there is no alternative but to recognize Maximilian," for they certainly would not break off all commerce with a country to which they are bound by many ties. Does General Ortega look at the sad picture he would make of our country, the delight of all its enemies? He must see that his efforts to secure the presidency of the Mexican republic excite a sedition against the existing government, and gives our detractors a reason to say we cannot govern ourselves; that we are essentially anarchical; that, in the hour of calamity, when we ought to think of nothing but the country, give aid to the government, and lend it all our holy efforts, we raise a new party, with no aim but to satisfy an ignoble ambition; we weaken ourselves and contribute to the triumph of our conquerors.

As political friends of General Ortega, we will give him some advice, though we doubt if he needs it, after that given to his secretary by Mr. Green Clay Smith. If he really thought himself entitled to the presidency, he should have been present at Paso del Norte before the 30th of November, 1865, to decide the question and take possession of the office, if it belonged to him. But that time has passed, and all he can now do is to say: "While the constitutional authority

is settling the question in dispute, I will contribute with my sword to the defence of independence, under the government formed by the people."

The place for a man who has been made general by his country is not in foreign cities, revelling in the enchantments of a crowded population, without leave, without a commission or order from his government, while a foreign war is waged at home; but to him, the field of honor is his distracted country.

MANY MEXICANS.

WASHINGTON, *April* 4, 1866.

SAN JUAN BAUTISTA, *February* 2, 1866.

VERY DISTINGUISHED AND ESTEEMED SIR: Your two acceptable letters reached me the 27th of October and 9th of November last.

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I will have the decrees Mr. Romero sent me published to-morrow, and with great pleasure, for the whole State approves of them as well as myself. There is no man of greater merit than you in the nation, nor one who has given more hope by taking the supreme command at a time when constant changes created great distrust. The trial of Ortega is a fact that gives influence to the government from the morality it infuses into our society, and especially among our great men, accustomed to stand upon their dignity for protection, for it makes their offences more serious.

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G. MENDEZ.

Don BENITO JUAREZ,
President of the Republic, Chihuahua.

NEW YORK, *February* 23, 1866.

ESTEEMED FRIEND: I received the circular issued at San Antonio, on the 3d instant, only to-day. In it you ask me what I think of the decrees of President Juarez, issued on the 8th of November last. In asking this question you say you are supported by the right the nation has to know the conduct of their public men. I acknowledge and approve of the right, and will act upon it when the time comes—that is, when I am called to account by the nation; but you will excuse me for making a difference between you and the nation, and if I do not consider myself obliged to answer your interrogatories. You address me as a member of congress, and consider me as called upon to express my opinion about national affairs. It might be so if congress was in session, but as I am now out of it, I do not consider myself obliged to answer. I was elected for two years, from the 15th of September, 1862, to the same time in 1864; so I am not now a member. You say: "The defence of independence demands that no opposing banners shall be raised." As a private Mexican citizen, who is not a judge of his country to decide the acts of his government, I agree with you, and will do my best to support that government. As there would be no use in the further expression of my opinion, you will pardon me for not answering more particularly. As I am not a public character, and am not called upon to decide political questions and judge the acts of my government, I beg you to consider this a private letter.

Yours, &c., JUAN J. BAZ.

Don JESUS GONZALEZ ORTEGA.

New York, *February* 23, 1866.

My much Esteemed Friend: I have just received your circular of the 3d, from San Antonio, enclosing a protest against the decrees of the 8th of November last, issued by citizen Benito Juarez, constitutional President, and his minister Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada, and asking my opinion of those acts.

I will not answer your note officially, because I am a member of congress, as you know, one of the chief bodies of the nation, absolutely independent, and none of its members can be called to account for a year after the close of the session, and then only legally by the executive or judiciary, according to certain laws; so if I answered you officially I would pass for an ignoramus, and would make myself responsible to the body to which I belong, and to the nation whose laws I have violated. To tell you, then, which side I take would be equivalent to raising one of those banners of revolt that you condemn, and which concerns an internal question in which I do not wish to meddle during this crisis of the republic. As I am a friend of order, I have always condemned any misconduct of my fellow-citizens. I am no blind partisan of any cause, and I think the unfortunate situation of our country is owing, in part, to the want of zeal, good judgment, morality, and purity in some of its former rulers, and to the odious treason of some of its native-born sons.

At this solemn time I am only thinking of its independence, the union of all Mexicans who have firmness and constancy in their hearts, and are enthusiastic in their efforts to repel the enemy—the invader who is trying to take the country the early revolutionists gave us, the same country now defended by the soldiers of liberty. Without a country, we would have no territory or inhabitants to enforce institutions and test legality; no tribunals to determine the responsibility of those who have failed to do their duty, and thus done evil to their country.

On learning you were in the city of New York, I am rejoiced to hear you have the firm resolution of attending to national interests, and of returning to the territory to continue the defence of independence; for when that is safe, all the rest will follow. I am sure you will provoke no discord, but will join in the union for salvation; and then those who have been injured will be revenged, and the guilty will meet with a just punishment.

I did not come here of my own will, but by superior order, to fulfil a commission, which I fear I will not be able to perform for want of means. When my business is over and my health restored, if not ordered to remain, I will return to Mexico. I consider myself obliged to make this reply known to my fellow-members. I hope this candid answer will not diminish our former friendship.

LEANDRO CUEVAS.

General Jesus Gonzalez Ortega.

New York, *February* 23, 1866.

Esteemed Friend and Comrade: I received your communication of the 3d instant, issued at San Antonio, only this day, with several copies of your protest against the decrees of the 8th November of last year, and a manifest to the nation on the same subject.

You ask me, as a member of congress, how I received the decrees—if I approve them or not. In the first place, I must inform you I am not a member of congress, though I was at the last session, which ended in 1864; so, as a member, I have nothing to say about the decrees. This ought to be a full answer to your question; but, without saying whether the Juarez government is in fact or in law the right one, it is certainly the only one we have, and we ought to support it. I for one am disposed to obey all orders from it, and will stick to the national defence.

From your manifest and what you say in your letter I am convinced you are persuaded of the harm two parties would now bring to the republic. We are weak, and must keep united to resist the ills that foreigners would bring upon us. The country must have a single government, a centre round which to concentrate and to have a proper effect abroad. It would give a great advantage to the invaders if the country were divided. Therefore, I repeat, I will stand by the government in its defence of the nation.

This resolution is entirely disinterested, for I have nothing to gain from the national party; but it is my duty as a Mexican, particularly under the present trying circumstances, to lay aside all personalities and act for the public good.

I do not entirely approve of the tenor of the decrees, particularly of that portion relating to you, for I think they can do no good in these troublous times, when all ought to be friendly and united in the same holy cause. I am glad I have taken no part in them; for, if they are enforced, harm will certainly result, the country will be split into parties, and anarchy will prevail. As a Mexican and a friend I advise you to remain firm in your patriotism, unless you seek harm. The world is looking at us, and our enemies will take advantage of every imprudence to show that we cannot govern ourselves, and this they are constantly repeating. I hope you will excuse me for replying to your official communication in this letter; but as I am not now a public character, and as you have no right to question a citizen on such a serious subject, I must return your note, and sign myself, &c.,

FELIPE B. BERRIOZABAL.

General JESUS G. ORTEGA.

NEW YORK, *February* 24, 1866.

MUCH ESTEEMED FRIEND: Your communication of the 3d from San Antonio reached me yesterday. You ask my opinion about the decrees of the 8th November, prolonging the Juarez presidency. Your excuse for the interrogation is the right the nation has to know the conduct of its public men, and your right to obtain that information.

You address me as a member of congress; I am not, nor have I been since 1864. I am a Mexican citizen, who preferred living in a foreign country to submitting to French intervention, since I could be of no service to the national cause. But on account of my former friendship with you, and because I never make a mystery of my opinions, I will give them to you privately in this letter. I do not acknowledge you have a right to ask me these questions, but from courtesy I will answer them.

If the nation hereafter desires to know what I am now doing abroad I can tell it; but till that time, I choose to keep silence.

My former conduct in regard to legal order and progressive principles is well known to my fellow-countrymen, and my efforts to maintain the supremacy of the law have been constant, both through the press and by public acts, and I have been persecuted by factions conspiring against legality and by the enemies of liberty. As to my approval or disapproval here of acts of the government of Mexico, representing our nationality, I would be failing in my duty if I excited controversies that could only serve to strengthen the foreign usurpers. My only desire is the independence of our country; in presence of this holy wish everything else seems low and contemptible. I insist that intervention and monarchy are most atrocious injustice and scandalous outrage, and that the people of Mexico, oppressed, conquered, disgraced, will never submit to a foreign yoke, but will ever struggle for their republican institutions; and I think that is also the duty of those Mexicans who are living out of the country, without thinking of domestic dissensions.

The decree in which Mr. Juarez prolongs his presidential mandate seems to me to be given conformably to the powers granted to him by congress to sus-

tain the situation, and they are within the restrictions imposed upon him. He can do anything not prohibited; so I understand the spirit that guided congress, and in this conception I drew up the bill that became a law, and supported it in debate as a member of the committee of relations.

As a plain citizen, I therefore recognize Juarez as the legitimate President of the Mexican republic, and I wish the most influence and greatest success to his government, the existence of which, before the world, is identified with our nationality. Do not infer from this that I approve of all the acts of the government. If I see some errors, I deplore them and regret them, and I think no private citizen should censure our ruler when the enemy is upon us. If the government acts wrong, makes mistakes, the day will come when it may be called to account, and the country will do justice and pronounce a sentence or remunerate.

In the mean time there is no sacrifice the aggrieved or offended in any way should not make for the government, no matter if it has not taken their advice or made use of their services. The first and least painful of these sacrifices is silence, because every voice that calls out against Mexico is heard in favor of the invader. There is only one case where silence is not necessary, in my opinion, and in which the government would lose all its legitimacy, and make the cause of rebellion just and holy—that is, by its accepting intervention; but fortunately this case is impossible, and on this point there is no one who does not feel the greatest confidence in the patriotism and constancy of the President of the republic.

I have not hesitated to speak to you frankly, because I see from your communication you are opposed to the raising of two flags, and because you are prepared for every sacrifice to save your country. You who have the glory to have been one of the chief soldiers in the restoration of order, and who have done so much in the present foreign war, will exalt yourself more in the eyes of your fellow-citizens by this sacrifice, if to refrain from raising another banner in Mexico, to increase our dissensions, to weaken us, and to make the defence of independence impossible, can be called a sacrifice.

As I serenely contemplate the situation of our country, I do not despair of its future; my only hope is to see Mexico free and independent.

My opinion is the more impartial as I have nothing to fear or to expect from you or Juarez; and I am sure, after independence is recovered, we had better give way to new men, who are younger and stronger, for revolutions break down those who take part in them.

Your friend and servant,

FRANCISCO ZARCO.

JESUS GONZALES ORTEGA.

TLACOTALPAM, *February* 26, 1866.

DEAR SIR AND FRIEND: I yesterday received from Mr. Romero your esteemed letter of the 10th November last, mentioning your decree prolonging the presidential term, and naming General Dias chief of the eastern line, and appointing me second.

I said in mine of the 14th that I had ordered a vote on the subject long before I received the decree and accompanying documents, and the result is a unanimous assent to the decrees. I am now publishing the resolutions in the official bulletin, which I send you as it comes out. I also send them to Mr. Romero for the information of the United States, and I will continue to do so, and will send the complete document to the department of government.

Though I cannot send you all these resolutions at once, as I said before, you can act with the assurance that all the eastern line is in your favor.

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

Don BENITO JUAREZ,
President of the Mexican Republic.

NEW YORK, *February* 27, 1866.

VERY DEAR SIR: I received your circular of the 3d, published in San Antonio, (Texas,) this day. You ask me, as a member of congress, my opinion in regard to the decree of the 8th November, prolonging the presidential term till a new election can take place.

Believing the constitutional government has acted in conformity with the powers conferred upon him by congress, I have never opposed its acts, as I think, as you do, it would be unpatriotic.

I tell you this, not because you have a right to ask me, but because my opinions are public, and politeness to you prompts me to answer you.

Yours, &c.,

CIPRIANO ROBERT.

Don JESUS GONZALES ORTEGA, *Present.*

[Private.]

NEW YORK, *February* 28, 1866.

MUCH ESTEEMED FRIEND: I have received your circular, your protest, and your manifest of the 3d instant, in regard to the decree of President Juarez continuing his presidential term while the French continue to invade Mexico.

I am surprised you ask my opinion in the matter, since nobody has the right to question me in such things. Moreover, I am not now a member of congress, for my term expired in 1864. But for politeness, I will tell you what I think. I think the President acted in accordance with article 128 of the constitution when he issued the decrees mentioned. Now the three powers of the nation are the President, the supreme court, and congress.

The President is first, and the natural guardian elected by the people. His duty is to protect it under all circumstances, particularly in times of foreign invasion. Next to him comes the president of the supreme court of justice, also elected by the people, and intended to fill the President's place in case of default. Then comes congress, which is put last, because in troublous times that body cannot always be kept together.

I could adduce many occurrences of the last eight years in support of my opinion; but what I have already said will make you understand why I think citizen Juarez was right in promulgating the decrees in question. And there is another strong reason why I must acknowledge Juarez as President of the republic—the troubles afflicting the country. If I had been in the country at the time the decrees were issued, even if I had been opposed to them, I would have kept my opinion secret, and continued to fight for the independence of the country. I am rejoiced at your resolve not to divide the party by hoisting a new banner, and earnestly exhort you to join us against the usurpers of our nationality.

As ever, your friend, &c.,

PANTALEON TOVAR.

Don JESUS GONZALEZ ORTEGA.

NEW YORK, *February* 28, 1866.

DEAR SIR: I see by the papers that you, as a good American who takes an interest in Mexican affairs, have asked the Executive when Juarez's presidential term would expire. You also ask if an election has taken place, or can take place during intervention.

As all the documents on this subject are soon to be published, I beg you to wait till then, that you may learn all about it, and act accordingly. I will send you from time to time what is intended for publication.

Respectfully, &c.,

JOAQUIN VILLALOBOS.

Mr. GREEN CLAY SMITH,
Member of House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, *March* 2, 1866.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 28th has reached me. I am obliged to you for the information you offer in regard to the close of the administration of President Juarez.

My object in offering the resolution was to have a publication of all the documents pertaining to the subject now in the hands of the Executive, and they ought to be complete, for the information of Congress as well as the people.

Your most obedient servant,

GREEN CLAY SMITH.

Mr. JOAQUIN VILLALOBOS, *New York.*

NEW YORK, *April* 3, 1866.

MUCH ESTEEMED FRIEND: Serious family cares have prevented me from making a few observations on the pamphlet of Mr. Gonzalez Ortega against President Juarez, and I would not now notice the production if the imperial papers were not discussing it.

I don't think Mr. Gonzalez Ortega will be pleased with what the enemies of independence say about his protest and manifest, and I believe he will repent of it when he sees the consequences. He might have meant well, but he has certainly done ill. He will suffer enough from the diatribes of those malicious periodicals.

I will proceed to give you some ideas that came into my mind when I read the pamphlet in which Ortega endeavors to draw obloquy upon the government, which he says "is located in one corner of the republic." He said, "Juarez is in the republic, it is true, but exists in a small corner of the territory."

What can be Ortega's object to ask the people of New York, where he now is, their opinion on the subject? I cannot guess. Only to find out? We Mexicans abroad are not the country, and it seems almost like recognizing the intervention to remain here. What Mexicans are now the real representatives of the country? Surely not those under the foreigners and traitors, for they have no suffrage. But who can do this? Those who, without bread, arms, or ammunition, oppose intervention, suffer from hunger and want of clothes, and do all they can for independence only to see Mexico free, with no reward, and the gibbet threatening them in front.

These are the real representatives of the nation now, and Mr. Gonzalez Ortega ought to consult them, if he wants to know the opinion of republicans.

Let us consider what these patriots have done since the decrees of the 8th November.

General Diego Alvarez published the decrees in the south, and recognized the President as the true government. General Francisco de Leon, acting governor of Tamaulipas, submitted to General Carvajal, appointed governor by Juarez. General Escobedo, governor of New Leon and commander in Coahuila, sent word to General Carvajal that he was subject to his orders. General Alejandro Garcia, governor of Tabasco and chief of the eastern line, continued

to acknowledge Juarez as President. The brave General Regules is appointed to command the centre by this same man Juarez. Sonora, Sinaloa, and Chihuahua recognize him. Thus you see all the brave men who fight are in favor of Juarez, and continue to stand by the chief magistrate who has supported the republican flag, *if it is in one corner of the Mexican territory.*

But, if that is not sufficient to legalize the presidency of Juarez, if article 128 of the constitution is not enough, we have the full powers granted him by congress on the 27th October, 1862. To show you I am right, I will cite a grave fact, approved by the nation. By these extra powers, the 16th June, 1864, Juarez called a session of congress, *declaring that the clergy and federal employés could vote, and no certificate of residence would be required of any one, whether elected by a State or territory.* Now, these orders are contrary to the constitution of 1857; yet the nation did not raise its voice against them, but elected representatives from Sinaloa, Sonora, Coahuila, New Leon, Chiapas, Oajaca, Chihuahua, Guerrero, Tabasco, and that part of the State of Vera Cruz not held by the enemy. Thus the republic supported the President in his reform of the constitution; then has he not the right to do what he pleases to save that constitution and the independence of the republic? I think so. And I also think General Gonzalez Ortega would have done better to keep silence, and thus fulfil a patriotic duty, and not provoke the *Sociedad* newspaper to say: "The bold Roman who exhibited the bloody body of Cæsar to the people *did no more injury to his assassins* than Gonzalez Ortega does to legality *by exposing its bleeding body in garments that are not spotless, owing to his acts.*"

Yours, &c.,

PANTALEON TOVAR.

Don Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada,
Paso del Norte.

Further data.

Since this supplement went to press, we have received the news that Colonel Naranjo and Commander Saenz refuse to join General Negrete in his protest against the government. Their answers to his note are too long to be inserted here. Negrete utters this falsehood: "The danger of the situation increases, because the government at Washington will not recognize Juarez. Relations are broken off, and will not be renewed till the new President fixes his place of residence."

The circular is dated the 27th January, *on the banks of the Rio Grande.*

Among other things, the colonel says in his answer: "The traitors say they are only pretending to adhere to the empire, and will soon show which side they are on." "Where is your President? Just where you are; and yet he presents himself before the entire nation from New York! He is the personification of law and justice, while he condemns a man who is doing his duty at the head of the defenders of independence."

The above letter is from Villaldama, the 6th of February, 1866. Commander Saenz says, among other things:

"I have already seen your letter, Mr. Negrete, and I think you ought to know us better than to address us in that manner."

"You were the bitter enemy of Ortega in Chihuahua, *threatening to murder him in some way*, and now you exalt him as our only saviour. I can hardly believe it, yet it is true. It was reserved for a Negrete, a Gonzalez Ortega, to appear in the darkest days of sorrow in their country, like unnatural sons who come to kill their dying mother and divide her inheritance between them." "Indeed, I do not think you are the pilots to save the ship containing the precious treasure of our independence; you are inexperienced and have not the

courage. This is what I think of you, when I hear you profane the sacred name of country and independence, and quoting the constitution to sustain you, interpreting it after your own fashion, of course. But when I examine your speech, I find the truth is wanting, and I become indignant." "I must say to you for the last time, what you see here written contains my opinion, and you will always find me consistent." "All we want is to save our country, and we think we shall; if not, we fall in the attempt. Ready for every sacrifice, we defy the world, if the world dares molest us. If the Mexican nation sink, we will sink with it." (Dated February 7, 1866.)—*Supplement to No.* 11 *of the official paper of the government of the Mexican republic.*

Such is the opinion of the only ones who have a right to give it, and they are those who march with arms in their hands.

P. S.—We have just received No. 11 of the official paper from Paso del Norte, dated 8th March, 1866. It contains notes from Antonio Pedrin, governor of Lower California, and from Garcia Morales, military commander of Sonora, applauding Juarez for issuing the decrees of the 8th November.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

General Gonzalez Ortega and his nine indorsers versus the Mexican nation and the constitutional President of its unanimous choice, with an appendix, containing accompanying documents.

A pamphlet in English, intended for circulation in the United States, and prominently put forward within a few days, has been issued by a Mexican general, Jesus Gonzalez Ortega, a pretender to the presidency of Mexico.

In Mexico, where, if anywhere, such an appeal is in place, scarcely a word in reply to it would be needed, for public opinion there, with a unanimity far greater even than that which re-elected Abraham Lincoln President of the United States, has already decided the question beyond recall. Negative proof of this, of itself conclusive, is afforded by the pamphlet itself. It contains, as appendix, what Ortega, in the title, calls "letters in ratification of his position." He had seven months to collect these. They are spread over twenty-six pages.

WHO ARE ORTEGA'S INDORSERS?

How many of these letters are from Mexican officials? Not one. How many are written from Mexico at all? Not one. How many are there in all? Nine—four written from Texas and five from New York. Who are the writers? Two are ex-governors of States, two ex-brigadier generals, one ex-postmaster general, one ex-colonel; every one of them disaffected ex-officials, absent from their native country in her hour of danger and suffering. Three more make the list of Ortega's indorsers—one an ex-editor and two others whom nobody knows.

Nine malcontent refugees! He omitted, on his muster-roll, one additional supporter, whose name should have been the tenth—Manuel Ruiz, formerly acting minister of justice, who, in November last, declared for Ortega, and in December went over to the French.—(House Ex. Doc. No. 73, 1866, part 2, p. 40.)

THE VOICE OF THE MEXICAN NATION.

How, meanwhile, during these seven months, has the announcement of Juarez's extension of term, necessitated by French intervention, been received? Jubilantly; by acclamation. The details would fill a volume. The governor of the State of Vera Cruz, Alejandro Garcia, second in command of the east-

ern division of the Mexican republic, in sending on (as early as February last) manifestoes from seventeen towns within his State, says: "The letters already received on this subject are too voluminous to be sent." (House Ex. Doc., 1866, part 2, page 52.) The manifestoes referred to (pp. 54 to 63) exhibit in brief and simple phrase the enthusiasm of the people. There has been throughout the entire nation, whether as regards officials or municipal bodies or public men, no exception. Not a governor of a State, not a town or a city under native rule, but has declared for the continuance in his present position of President Juarez. Nay, more, not a Mexican citizen resident in Mexico has, in public harangue or in printed communication, expressed disapprobation of the extension of Juarez's term of office, or given in his adhesion to General Ortega. We might search in vain throughout modern history for a parallel example of national unanimity.

PROOFS.

So far as proof of these statements can be supplied, without swelling this pamphlet beyond reasonable limits, it will be found in an appendix. Letters are there given from every governor, now acting as such, within the republic of Mexico, from distinguished officers now in the field, and from public men, all approving the action of Juarez in prolonging his presidency during the war. Several of the towns went further than this, adding an expression of their earnest desire that Juarez should be elected President for a second term, after the present war is over.

MEXICAN SENTIMENT IN CALIFORNIA.

But it is not to the country over which Juarez's jurisdiction extends that the confidence reposed in him by his countrymen is restricted. California attracts Mexicans in large numbers, and from that country also comes to us, through loyal associations and otherwise, a concurrent meed of approbation. In the congressional document already quoted (pp. 43 to 48) examples will be found. The patriotic Mexican clubs of San Francisco, of Sacramento, of Virginia City, and others, by addresses numerously signed, testify in the strongest terms their approval of Juarez's course. Is there among these hundreds one voice for Ortega? No. Of his corporal's guard of nine not one hails from the shores of the Pacific.

Here these remarks might terminate, for the question is a domestic one, as to which Mexicans are the sole arbiters. But it may interest some readers briefly to inquire whether the popular verdict is as just as it has been unanimous.

CONSTITUTIONAL ARGUMENT.

The articles of the Mexican constitution upon which Ortega's pretensions are based will be found in House Executive Document, 1862, No. 100, at page 148, as follows:

ARTICLE 79. In temporary default of a President of the republic, and in the vacancy before the installation of the newly elected, the president of the supreme court of justice shall enter upon the exercise of the functions of President.

ARTICLE 80. If the default of President be absolute, a new election shall be proceeded with, according to the provisions of article 76, and the one so elected shall exercise his functions until the last day of November of the fourth year following his election.

ARTICLE 82. If, from whatever reason, the election of President shall not have been made and published by the first of December, upon which the change is to take place, or if the newly elected is not able to enter promptly upon the exercise of his functions, the term of the preceding President shall nevertheless cease, and the supreme executive power shall be deposited, *ad interim*, in the president of the supreme court of justice.

This is from the translation of the Mexican constitution officially communicated to the State Department. The concluding phrase of article 82, which contains the gist of the matter, reads in the original as follows:

"El supremo poder ejecutivo se depositará interinamente en el presidente de a suprema corte de justicia."

The literal translation of the word "interinamente" is "provisionally," "temporarily." And the provision is, that the supreme executive power shall be deposited (or, as we express it, shall vest) *provisionally* in the president of the supreme court.

Originally, Mexico had, like the United States, a senate and a lower house, the vice-president, as with us, being president of the senate. When a change was made limiting the congress to a single chamber, the chief justice was selected as vice-president to fill any vacancy caused by death or other default of the President.

The whole context of the articles quoted shows that the arrangement which placed the chief justice in the presidential chair was to be strictly a temporary one. "In *temporary* default of a President," (Art. 79,) the president of the supreme court is to take his place. Against his permanent occupation of the seat a jealous guard is set. In case of the President's death the chief justice is not allowed, as under our Constitution the Vice-President is, to serve during the rest of the presidential term. "If the default of President be absolute," (Art. 80,) a new election shall be held. The policy is plain. Its spirit cannot be misunderstood. No one but the man actually voted for as President is, under any circumstances, permanently to occupy the presidential chair.

There was jealousy on another point. An ambitious President, hoping, perhaps, to hold office in perpetuity, might intrigue to prevent or postpone an election for his successor. In order to defeat any such intrigue, it was provided (Art. 82) that, when the term for which a President was elected had expired, the executive power was to vest in the chief justice. The debates in the convention which adopted the Mexican constitution show that this was the spirit and intent of the provision.

Article 82, taken alone and according to its letter, undoubtedly gives the presidency temporarily to Ortega, as chief justice, the words being, "If, from whatever reason, the election of President shall not have been made and published by the first of December;" and the election, in point of fact, not having been made and published by that day. But taken in connection with the articles which precede it, and in view of the well-known intent of its framers, and, yet more especially, interpreted in the light of that policy which distinguishes the Mexican constitution from ours, namely, that he only shall permanently act as President who was elected to be President, not he who was elected as a temporary substitute, it would have been a direct violation of the spirit of the articles quoted, had the substitute in this case become the principal.

It will be observed that the words are not "If, from whatever cause, no election can be held." The contingency anticipated evidently was that in which an election, though possible, was not held or was not published; a contingency much more likely to happen through intrigue of an unscrupulous incumbent, in an unsettled government like the Mexican, than among us. But, in the case we are considering, no man can doubt Juarez's great desire that it had been possible to hold an election; and as little can we doubt that, if it had been possible, he, by an overwhelming vote, would have been a second time the people's choice.

The contingency of a foreign invasion so formidable in its proportions as to overrun the country, and render impossible the holding of an election at all, was evidently not in the minds of the framers of the constitution. Not anticipating it, they did not provide for it. In providing for another case they used words which, if we accept the letter to the exclusion of the spirit, and construe the

word *interinamente* to mean *indefinitely*, may be claimed to justify a proceeding which was clearly neither foreseen nor intended.

But, in addition to this, the Mexican congress, in view of the military necessities which, when the French invasion began, they foresaw, granted extraordinary powers, suited to the emergency, to the President. By a law of December 11, 1861, they decreed:

"ART. 2. The Executive is hereby fully authorized and empowered to take such steps, and adopt such measures, as in his judgment may be necessary under the existing circumstances, without other restrictions than that of saving the independence and integrity of the national territory, the form of government established by the constitution, and the principles and laws of reform."

Suppose the term of election of the governor of a State had expired during the war, with no possibility to elect his successor, is it not certain that Juarez had the power, under that law, to prolong his term of office? Is it not equally certain that he had the power, if he saw fit to exercise it, to prolong his own? Must he not have been certain that the people, almost unanimously, desired that prolongation? Has it not since been proved, beyond all denial, that they did? And ought he, from motives of false delicacy, and to satisfy a technical scruple, to have thwarted the national will at a moment when everything—even the salvation of the very constitution from which we have been quoting—depended upon popular unanimity, and popular confidence in the executive head? That would have been to reverse what we are told of the Sabbath, and to say, "Mexicans were made for the constitution, not the constitution for Mexicans."

"The letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." Never was there a more complete exemplification of the text than in the present case. Blindly to follow the letter of the law, under circumstances in which it was clearly never meant to apply, and thus to violate its spirit, would have been to prefer technicality to vitality, and, in all human probability, to have sacrificed the life of the nation thereby.

Is it strange that the Mexican people, listening to common sense, preferred the substance to the shadow and ratified Juarez's decision?

ORTEGA RESIDES IN NEW YORK.

But the people of Mexico may have had additional cause, of a personal character, for their decision.

On the 28th of December, 1864, General Ortega made an application to the Mexican government, through the minister of foreign relations. He does not give the text of that application in his pamphlet; but we find it in the congressional document already quoted, (No. 73,) page 30. He applied for "license to repair to the interior of the republic, or elsewhere within Mexican coasts, to continue to defend with arms the independence of Mexico." And he added: "As the interior States are occupied by the invaders, I may have to pass some sea or foreign territory to realize my desires, and I hope you will inform the citizen President of this."

Two days afterwards, to wit, under date December 30, 1864, his request was acceded to, leave being granted him to "proceed either directly or by traversing the sea, or through some foreign country, to points of the Mexican republic not occupied by the enemy, to continue to defend the national independence," &c., but not a word about going to a foreign country, there to remain.

Yet the said General Gonzales Ortega, leaving Mexico in February, 1865, and passing by way of Santa Fé to New York, instead of proceeding to any part of Mexico, there to fight for her independence, has absented himself even to the present time, throughout these darkest days of his country's history.

Which of the two men were the people of Mexico more likely to desire as

their standard-bearer—the patriot who has remained faithfully at his post and endured, even to this hour, the burden and heat of the day, or the man who, under cover of a license to proceed through some foreign country to points of the Mexican republic, there to defend her independence, went direct to New York, and has since spent his time chiefly in that city, leaving his country to her fate?

But these are trifles. The fact is, indeed, that the Mexican people have no longer any confidence in Ortega; but even if that had been otherwise, the national decision would have been the same—in favor of their long-tried leader, Benito Juarez, and of the spirit of their federal constitution.

ANIMUS AND OBJECT OF ORTEGA'S PAMPHLET.

This appeal, by a Mexican general, to a foreign people, against the unanimous verdict of his own countrymen, is a scheme fraught with unmixed mischief, and not even redeemed, as many unprincipled schemes are, by the poor excuse of possible success in attaining its ostensible object. Mrs. Lavinia Janetta Horton Ryves, a recent claimant for royal rights in the English law courts, was as likely to dethrone Queen Victoria as General Ortega is to displace President Juarez. No sane man, even slightly conversant with the facts, for a moment imagines that he can. That is not the object of Ortega's pamphlet. If it had been, that document would have been published in Spanish and in Mexico, not in English, to circulate among us, who have no voice in the matter. Its object is, injury, by base indirection, to a noble cause. Its object is, to create doubts throughout this country, in the minds of the uninformed, as to the stability of executive authority in Mexico, for what ulterior purpose we need not inquire.

Suffice it that the whole affair is the flimsiest pretext; an effort, transparent as glass, to get up the idea that there is a contest for the Mexican presidency. A contest! If there be, it is one in which there is the Mexican nation, including all its officials, civil and military, duly represented near our government by its accredited minister on the one side, and, on the other, nine absentees, without present position or influence, led by a Mexican general, brave, very likely, and who, in former days, may have done good service in the field, as Benedict Arnold did before he turned traitor to his country.

APPENDIX.

The following are letters, or extracts from letters, variously addressed, from every governor of a State in the republic of Mexico, now acting as such. It will be seen that every one approves Juarez's course:

From General Diaz, governor and military commandant of the State of Oaxaca and commander of the eastern division, to the Mexican minister.

TLALPA, *May* 9, 1866.

* * * I have caused the publication here of the late decrees of the government.

The first, with reference to the extension of the constitutional period of the President, has been received with great satisfaction. It is unnecessary for me to speak of my own views, for they are always manifested in my conduct, which consists in entire obedience, or in entire withdrawal from official position, when my convictions do not permit my concurrence in the policy pursued.

In the present case, the step taken by the President is, in my judgment, not only opportune, but the only course that is consistent with the salvation of our cause.

The decree which orders the submission to trial of General Ortega and other officers similarly liable is, in my judgment, well founded in the ordinances and practice of war.

My opinion with reference to the strict maintenance of the ordinances is well known: they should always be rigorously applied.

I believe, therefore, that the government has only done what was its duty in this matter.

I remain your attentive friend and servant,

PORFIRIO DIAZ.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *Washington.*

From General Garcia, governor of Vera Cruz and second in command of the eastern division, to President Juarez.

TLACOTALPAM, *February* 26, 1866.

VERY DEAR SIR AND MUCH RESPECTED FRIEND: * * * *

I informed you in my letter of the 14th instant that on the 1st, before I received your official decree and other documents prolonging your term, I had sent out a circular to all the authorities within the lines to ascertain the will of the people.

I have received assurances from every quarter acknowledging your right to continue in the presidency of the republic till another constitutional election can be held.

I am now receiving the manifestoes and am publishing them in the official bulletin, of which I send you copies. I also send some to Mr. Romero, for any good use he may make of them in the United States, and I will continue to do so by every opportunity. When complete, I will despatch them to the department of government for due consideration.

I repeat to you what I said in my last; that is, though I cannot send you the facts now, you may rest assured that all the eastern line will vote in the same way.

Nothing new has occurred since my letter of the 14th.

I think General Diaz is in Tlajiaco, though I am not sure of it, for, in spite of all my efforts, I have not been able to communicate with him.

In the hope that you will continue to favor me with your welcome letters, I remain your friend and servant,

ALEJANDRO GARCIA.

Señor DON BENITO JUAREZ,
President of the Mexican Republic.

The next letter is from the victor in the late encounter on the Rio Grande, in which a rich train, worth from one to two million of dollars, was captured.

From General Escobedo, governor of the State of New Leon and commander-in-chief of the forces on the Rio Grande, to the Mexican minister.

RIO BLANCO, *April* 26, 1866.

* * * * We are all here perfectly united and decided upon the presidential question, and the recent decrees have been received without question whatever, all being disposed to continue obeying and respecting the government of President Juarez.

The same is the case in the interior, and the disposition is particularly manifested by all the liberal papers, which with so much valor and constancy have continued defending the national cause, even in many cases in places occupied by the forces of the so-called empire. All of our news from the interior is satisfactory. On all sides the public spirit is rising, and the adhesions to the farcical empire changing to the reverse.

What we require is arms, and particularly sabres for our cavalry. It is impossible that our soldiers, armed only with an old musket, or a rifle, can compete with the French cavalry, or the Austrian, or even the traitors, who are all well mounted, armed, and equipped. Nevertheless, we do not avoid the combat, and many times have measured arms with them with good success.

I am your attentive and obedient servant,

MARIANO ESCOBEDO.

Senor DON MATIAS ROMERO,
Washington, D. C.

From the governor and military commandant of the State of Coahuila.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AND MILITARY COMMANDANT OF THE STATE OF COAHUILA DE ZARAGOZA,
Rosas, December 8, 1865.

As this government and command has received the supreme decree of the 8th of November last, prolonging the functions of the citizen President of the republic for the specified time, during the present state of the war, and those of the powers of the person who may be president of the court of justice, for the time necessary to the object of its prolongation, and sees that it is in conformity with the spirit of the constitution, and to the interests of the republic, agreeable to the national will, and particularly to this State, it therefore decrees that it be fulfilled, and for that purpose has published it this day to the authorities and forces under its command, and will endeavor to give it the greatest publicity in the State.

I have the honor to communicate this to you, for your information and that of the chief magistrate of the nation.

Independence and liberty!

A. S. VIESCA.

EDUARDO MUZQUIZ, *Acting Secretary.*

The Citizen MINISTER OF RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT,
Chihuahua.

From the governor and military commander of the State of Sinaloa.

GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY DEP'T OF STATE OF SINALOA,
Concordia, December 24, 1866.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt from your department of the circulars of the 28th of October and 8th of November, and of the two decrees issued on that last date.

These supreme resolutions shall be rigidly enforced by this State under my command, since in it is involved nothing less than the firm establishment of the supreme authority of the nation, and likewise, as is well understood, the responsibility incurred by those soldiers of the republic who have abandoned the cause in its hour of need, and gone abroad to foreign lands.

Orders have been issued to circulate these welcome resolutions through all the districts, and to have them promulgated in general orders to the united brigades of Sinaloa and Jalisco. I communicate these measures to you, in order that through your means they may come to the knowledge of the supreme magistrate of the nation.

Independence and liberty!

DOMINGO RUBI.

F. SEPULVEDA, *Secretary.*

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, *Chihuahua.*

From the governor and military commander of the State of Sonora.

I have received with positive satisfaction the two decrees issued by the President under date of the 8th of November last, and the circular from your department with which you were pleased to accompany them, the first of them relative to the prolongation of the term of the supreme magistrate of the nation, as long as the condition of the foreign war in which we are involved does not permit a new constitutional election to be had, and the second relative to the prolongation of the term of the supreme magistrate of the nation, and the mode of supplying his place, if in the mean time he should happen to fail.

The anomalous circumstances in which the republic unfortunately finds itself, the deficiency or silence of the general constitution on a point of such vital interest to the nation, the spirit of articles 78, 79, 80, and 82 of the same fundamental code, and, finally, the collection of powers bestowed on the executive by the legislative body of the Mexican union, under date of the 11th of December, 1861, afford superabundant ground and justification for the first of the above-mentioned supreme resolutions, in which the enemies of our country can never see anything else than the unflinching zeal of the President for the maintenance of legitimate authority, the most mature examination in his measures, and, above all, his singular abnegation in facing a situation so stormy as the present one, without any other recompense than the satisfaction always caused by the fulfilment of duty, however onerous it may be.

Independence and liberty! Camp in La Noria, February 1, 1866.

J. GARCIA MORALES.

D. ELIAS, *Acting Secretary.*

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT,

Paso del Norte.

From Major General J. M. J. Carvajal, governor of the State of Tamaulipas.

SANTA ROSALIA, *June* 15, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I have now reached the territory of Tamaulipas, and find the people here full of good feeling, and resolved not only to continue their sacrifices in defence of the national cause, but convinced of the necessity of an absolute obedience to the legitimate authorities, and determined to frown down all such ambitious plans as those of Ortega, which only serve to divide us and to aid the partisans of the intervention.

I therefore find that all are willing to obey me as governor and military commandant of this State by virtue of the appointment of President Juarez, who is recognized as the lawful and legitimate President of the republic, without there being in all the State of Tamaulipas—as there scarcely is in all the republic—a single person who does not approve the decree extending the term of office of the President until a new election can take place.

* * * * * * * *

I am, very truly, your friend and servant,

JOSÉ M. J. CARVAJAL.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *Washington.*

From Major General de Regules, governor of the State of Michoacan and commander-in-chief of the central army.

URUAPAN, *May* 7, 1866.

DEAR SIR: I have received the two decrees issued by the department of foreign relations and of government on the 8th of November of last year; the one extending the term of the presidency of the republic, which you so wor-

thily occupy, until the circumstances of the country shall permit a new appeal to the popular suffrage; and the other declaring the responsibility which has been incurred by General Ortega, in residing for many months in a foreign country without the authorization for that purpose of the department of war. Both decrees have been well received by the forces under my command, and according to the news I am daily receiving, by all the inhabitants of Michoacan who take part in the defence of our country.

All comprehend, what is really the truth—that is to say, that you are the one who for a thousand reasons should continue at the head of the nation during this terrible crisis, during which what is most necessary is, that he who occupies the high position in which you are placed should be able to count, as you can count, upon the entire confidence of the people, and which confidence it is felt cannot be so fully reposed in any other person.

On the other hand, it cannot be doubted that the powers are ample under which you have taken these steps, and that they are in no manner opposed to the fundamental law, for the constitution has no provision for the case when it should be entirely impossible for an election to be held, as now, by reason of the foreign invasion.

With reference to General Ortega, the declaration as to his responsibility is only too well deserved, in having abandoned, as he has, in a manner so contrary to his antecedents, the defence of his country at a time when it most required the services of all good patriots, and especially of all having any experience in the career of arms.

* * * * * * * *

I am your obedient servant,

NICOLAS DE REGULES.

President Don Benito Juarez.

From Colonel Don Gregoria Mendez, governor and military commander of the State of Tabasco, to President Juarez.

San Juan Bautista, *February* 2, 1866.

Most Distinguished and Respected Sir: I have before me your two very acceptable favors of the 27th of October and 9th of November last.

* * * * * * *

Your determination in regard to General Diaz, who is now fighting in Oaxaca, shall be duly respected by me and my subalterns. That general is truly worthy of his former position by his effectiveness, his valor, his honesty, and his energy, particularly as his disappearance depended upon causes over which he had no control.

I shall take great pleasure in having the decrees sent me by Mr. Romero published to-morrow; they have my entire approval and that of the State. No person more worthy, or with greater hopes of the nation, could have been trusted with the supreme command than yourself, and at a time when a change might have caused a want of confidence, to say the least. The trial of Mr. Ortega is an act that gives power to the government from its principle of morality, as it impresses upon our society and its great men the necessity of attending to their duties, and teaches them the great impropriety of derelictions which they often commit, thinking to be shielded by the elevation of their positions.

* * * * * * *

I conclude with an affectionate greeting, wishing you peace and prosperity, and subscribing myself your obedient servant, &c., &c.,

G. MENDEZ.

The President of the Republic,
Don Benito Juarez, *Chihuahua.*
30 Mex.

Extract of a letter from the governor of Chiapas to the Mexican consul in San Francisco.

CONSULATE OF MEXICO,
San Francisco, April 13, 1866.

Under date of the 15th of February last, the governor of the State of Chiapas, Don J. Pantaleon Dominguez, writes to me as follows:

"Informed of the contents of your favor of the 15th December last, and of the decrees issued by the supreme government of the republic relative to the prorogation of the functions of the President of the republic, and to the responsibility incurred by the citizen General Jesus G. Ortega, I have to-day ordered the publication and circulation of the said decrees in the State under my command, and that they shall be brought to the knowledge of the governors of the States of Tabasco and Vera Cruz, to whom also I have transcribed your said letter and sent a copy of the letter that you addressed to the first magistrate of the nation."

I have the honor to transcribe the same to you, that you may be pleased to bring the same to the knowledge of the chief magistrate of the republic.

I renew to you the assurances of my esteem and consideration.

JOSÉ A. GODOY.

The Citizen SEBASTIAN LERDO DE TEJADA,
Minister of Foreign Relations and of Government, Paso del Norte.

From General Diego Alvarez, governor of the State of Guerrero.

LA PROVIDENCIA, *January* 21, 1866.

* * * I have been well pleased to see the two decrees issued by the department of foreign relations and of government on the 8th of November last; the one extending the term of the presidency which you worthily occupy until it shall be possible to again consult the national will by means of an election, and the other determining that General Gonzalez Ortega shall be submitted to trial.

Both measures are well justified by the reasons upon which they are based, and which are fully explained in the circular of Mr. Lerdo which accompanies them. So far I do not believe there has been a single good Mexican in this State who has expressed any other opinion than in favor of these decrees, which the critical circumstances of the republic have imperiously required.

* * * * * * *

DIEGO ALVAREZ.

President DON BENITO JUAREZ.

From the political chief of the Territory of Lower California to the Mexican consul in San Francisco.

MEXICAN CONSULATE IN SAN FRANCISCO,
San Francisco, January 24, 1866.

Citizen Antonio Pedrin, political chief of the Territory of Lower California, writes to me from San José, under date of the 16th of the present month, as follows:

"With your acceptable communication dated the 27th of September last I have received the copies of the official journal which you had the goodness to enclose to me, and in which were published the decrees issued by the President of the republic through the medium of the department of foreign affairs and government; the one relative to the prolongation of the term of the President, and the other to the responsibilities of General Jesus G. Ortega.

"In acknowledging this communication, I confess with pleasure that in my opinion the President could not have adopted any measure more acceptable, because, though it may affect certain partialities interested in a change of administration, yet there is nothing more certain than that no one of our public men could fill the immense void that would be left by the absence from power of the father of the Mexican republic. In him we know that we ever find united faith, integrity, and constancy, fully supported by the national sentiment; without him, God alone knows what would become of Mexico under present circumstances."

And I have the honor to transmit this to you, in order that you may be pleased to communicate it to the President for his information.

I renew to you the assurance of my distinguished consideration and esteem.

JOSÉ A. GODOY.

SEBASTIAN LERDO DE TEJADA,
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Government, Paso del Norte.

From Major General Ramon Corona, commanding in Sinaloa and Jalisco.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE REPUBLICAN ARMY,
UNITED BRIGADES OF SINALOA AND JALISCO,
Concordia December 24, 1865.

The circulars and supreme decrees issued from your department on the 28th of October and the 8th of November have been received by me.

The common sense of the nation will see in these resolutions the confirmation of the supreme authority of the nation, and the assurance that the faithful defenders of the national independence are not confounded with those who, though bearing the name of the soldiers of the republic, abandon its banner in the hour of trial, and go abroad into foreign lands.

These supreme resolutions will be made known in general orders to the regiments composing the united brigades of Sinaloa and Jalisco.

I communicate this information to you, in order that by your means it may be brought to the knowledge of the supreme magistrate of the nation.

Independence and liberty!

RAMON CORONA.

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT,
Chihuahua.

From Major General Juan Alvarez, commander-in-chief of the southern military division.

LA PROVIDENCIA, *January* 20, 1866.

DEAR SIR AND FRIEND: * * * *

The two decrees issued by you on the 8th of November last appear to me to be both just and necessary. The extension of your presidential term until the circumstances of the country, now invaded by a foreign enemy, shall permit a new election, is the only solution of the difficulties that is presented, and it is a measure which is, without doubt, within the ample faculties which have been given to you by the national representatives; nor can it be said that it is opposed to the constitution, which contemplates at least the possibility of an election.

On the other hand, if you had delivered the place to the vice-president, the latter, without any legal instalment, so long as an election cannot take place, as it cannot for a long time, would have to continue indefinitely occupying the presidency, when the spirit of the constitution is that he shall only take charge of that office temporarily and in a provisional manner, These reasons, which

are well explained in the circular of Mr. Lerdo, and the well-merited confidence which you enjoy, have caused this decree, which I have myself long desired to see issued, to be very well received in this State.

With reference to the responsibility incurred by Señor Gonzales Ortega, I have nothing to add to the reasons set forth by the government in declaring the same. In my judgment they are conclusive, and however much I may lament the errors of a Mexican who has heretofore done good service for his country, the decree appears to me to be just.

* * * * * * * *

JUAN ALVAREZ.

President DON BENITO JUAREZ.

Many letters, from General Ortega's former friends, were addressed to him, condemning his course and vindicating that of President Juarez. Of course, General Ortega suppressed them. We select two as specimens, both from members of the last Mexican congress. Señor Zarco was also, in 1861, Mexican minister of foreign affairs:

From Señor Zarco to Señor Ortega.

[Extracts.]

NEW YORK, *February* 24, 1866.

MY VERY ESTEEMED FRIEND: I have received to-day a communication from you, dated at San Antonio, Texas, the 3d of the present month, in which you ask me what course I have adopted in reference to the destruction of the legal order of things, and what I have done to manifest my approval or disapprobation, as the case may be, of the decrees of the 8th of November last, in which Señor Juarez declared that he would continue in the office of President of the Mexican republic. You base your interrogatory on the right which the nation has at all times to know what the course is of its public men, and on the obligation which you think you have to collect the proper information.

As you directed your interrogatory to me in the belief that I was a deputy to the general congress, I might limit my answer to informing you that I hold no such position, nor in fact any other public position whatever, since the term expired, in 1864, for which I was elected representative by the districts of various States. I am, therefore, no more than a Mexican who, having held the position with which the people honored me, has preferred to emigrate to a foreign country rather than submit to the French intervention; which resolution I took when my public character ceased, and after persuading myself that I had no opportunity to serve the national cause in any manner.

But in courtesy to you, in consideration of our old relations of friendship, and because I never made any mystery of my opinions, I believe it to be my duty to express my ideas more at length in this letter, which is no more than that of a simple citizen.

Even though I had a public character, and I were performing its functions in our country, I could not recognize in you or in any man, no matter how high might be his authority, the right to make me the interrogatory which you have addressed to me; because, if public men should give an account to the nation of their actions, there is a legal method established for the purpose from which no one should depart.

* * * * * * * *

As to approving or disapproving here of the acts of the government of Mexico, the representative of our nationality, I should deem myself to be wanting in my duty if I raised controversies that only served to give strength to the foreign usurpers. My only desire is the independence of our country; and in presence of this sacred object, all else appears to me pitiful and contemptible.

Here I should only be employed in crying out, as long as ever I could, that the intervention and monarchy are the most atrocious injustice, and the most scandalous iniquity; and that the people of Mexico, oppressed, conquered, unfortunate, never recognizes a foreign yoke, but struggles to break it and restore its republican institutions. Such I believe to be the duty of Mexicans externally, without thinking of domestic dissensions.

The decree by which Señor Juarez prolongs his presidential term appears to me to be in conformity with the faculties conferred upon him by the congress, in order to meet the circumstances of the occasion, since the issuing of such a decree is not enumerated in the restrictions imposed upon him. He can do everything, except what these restrictions prohibit; so I understand the spirit which actuated the congress, and with this understanding, at least, I proceeded to draw up the resolutions which have become a law, and to support them in debate, as a member of the committee on relations.

As a simple citizen, therefore, I recognize Senor Juarez as the legitimate President of the Mexican republic, and I desire the greatest possible prestige and support for his government, whose existence, in the opinions of the world, is identified with our nationality.

* * * * * * * *

I contemplate the affairs of our country with serenity, without despairing of its future. I have no other aspiration than to see Mexico free and independent. My opinion is the more impartial, as having nothing either to fear or hope from yourself or from Senor Juarez. I entertain the conviction that, as soon as our independence is once established, we who have been public men should yield our places to newer and more vigorous men, inasmuch as civil strifes rapidly waste and superannuate those who take part in them.

I am, as ever, your affectionate friend and servant,

FRANCISCO ZARCO.

Senor D. JESUS GONZALES ORTEGA.

From Señor Robert to Señor Gonzalez Ortega.

NEW YORK, *February* 27, 1866.

DEAR SIR: With the documents accompanying it, I have received a circular from you, dated at San Antonio de Bejar, Texas, the 3d of the present month, in which you ask me what course I have pursued as a deputy in reference to the decree of the 8th of November last, issued at El Paso by the constitutional government, prolonging the presidential term of Senor Juarez until the circumstances of the war permit a suitable election to be held. Believing that the constitutional government has acted within the scope of the powers which, conformably to the constitution, the last congress conferred upon it, and to which congress I had the honor to belong, it does not seem to me, therefore, that the aforesaid action should be called into question, which, under present circumstances, as you yourself have indicated in your manifesto, would be unpatriotic.

I have made the foregoing declaration to you, not because I thought you had any right to inquire as to my conduct, but because my opinions, which are founded on the law, are public, and my consideration for yourself induces me to comply with your request.

I remain, &c., &c,

CIPRIANO ROBERT.

Senor DON JESUS GONZALEZ ORTEGA, *Present.*

Similar documents might be multiplied indefinitely; but no addition is needed to what is already superabundant proof.

[Enclosure No. 6.—From the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, Paso del Norte, June 7, 1866.]

Corrections in General Ortega's publications.

General Ortega published a pamphlet in New York containing all the documents he could find to support him for the presidency, and opposing the decrees of the 8th of November prolonging the presidential duties till war permits a new election.

He begins by saying all those who held office when the war commenced hold it now by this decree; and he sent a circular to many ex-governors and congressmen living abroad, whose offices expired in 1864.

His pamphlet contains the only favorable answers he could get. They were from Epitacio Huerta, José Patoni, Guillermo Prieto, Fernando Pousel, Manuel Quegada, and Joaquin Villalobos. We did not know the last was a public character. The pamphlet also contains a kind of resolution, drawn up in New York, declaring that Ortega ought to be President of the Mexican republic, and it is signed by Juan Tongo, J. Rivera, and Priest Juan N. Orestes, all of them unknown.

He did not print all the answers he received against his wishes, because they were private, as he says, when all the others were just as private. However, some Mexicans residing in New York took the trouble to publish the others, which were from Juan J. Baz, Leandro Cuevas, Felipe Berriozabal, Francisco Zarco, Cipriano Robert, and Pantaleon Tovar, together with some letters from Alejandro Garcia, general-in-chief of the eastern line, and Gregorio Mendez, governor of Tabasco, favoring the decrees of the 8th of November. We thus give some idea of the pamphlet, and will now proceed to the corrections of it.

Ortega published a letter supposed to be addressed to President Juarez by General Patoni, on the 15th of December, from Presidio del Norte. Patoni has just resigned a command he had held in Chihuahua up to the 9th of December, when the government moved to Paso del Norte, and he went to Presidio del Norte. That letter, says Patoni, cannot recognize the President's decree because he thought it ought to have been proclaimed in Chihuahua. We are authorized to say the President never received the letter; but a letter from Patoni at Presidio was received. It was dated the 25th of December, before he left for San Antonio, and spoke of government affairs without alluding to the decree. Some months before it was issued, while Patoni was in Chihuahua, he advised the President to prolong his term of office when it should expire.

We have the diary of a person who travelled with him to Presidio. It is as follows: "Saturday, December 9, 1865, left Chihuahua at half past four p. m.; reached Aldama at eight, and stopped for the night. Sunday, 10th, set out at half past four with General Patoni and Guillermo Prieto; stopped that night at Coyote, where we arrived at half past five p. m. Monday, 11th, started at nine a. m., and got to Hormigas by two p. m. Tuesday, 12th, started at half past five a. m., and slept at Coyame. Wednesday, 13th, left at noon, and got to Coyamo by five p. m. Thursday, 14th, left at one p. m., and got to Cuchillo Parado by nine p. m. Prieto's carriage upset, and the wheel of Patoni's came off. Friday, 15th, and Saturday, 16th, stopped to have the carriages repaired. Sunday, 17th, we left Cuchillo Parado at half past nine, and slept at Arroyo del Mimbre. Monday, 18th, set out at seven a. m.; arrived at Mula by one p. m. Tuesday, 19th, set out at half past nine a. m., and arrived at Ojinaga (Presidio del Norte) at half past three p. m."

This diary can be proved by persons along the road and at Presidio. Patoni's letter purports to have been written on the 15th of December at Presidio, four days before reaching that place. As to the style of the letter, it is much like the others in Ortega's pamphlet. Those who are acquainted with that individual may guess what we mean. We doubt if Patoni had anything to do with the

letter. There is another letter in Ortega's book, supposed to be written from New York to the President on the 7th of October, advising against the prolongation of the presidential term. He did not get the letter; but he did get one, some months before, from Villalobos, who was in the United States trying to negotiate a loan. In that he said Maximilian had banished him, and robbed him of $10,000, and he requested the government to repay it. He was told it was impossible; the government could not be responsible for his losses, and if he succeeded in the loan he ought to devote the whole of it to support the war against intervention. Ortega publishes a note from Mr. Huerta, in New York, the 25th of February, in which he gives himself the title of general of division. After the decree of 8th of November the President promoted some officers to the rank of major generals, and Mr. Huerta was among them; yet, after this, he opposed the decree, and called it revolutionary, and compared it to Comonfort's proclamation. He said as soon as Comonfort turned he denied him, and he does the same with Juarez. After sending him the commission, the government ordered him to come home to fight against the enemy. He made some excuses at first, and then sided with Ortega.

As to Prieto, when he was with the government, before the decree was published, he opposed the decree, because he did not think it was constitutional; but he could not go for Ortega, on account of his acts in 1861, and he would consider it the greatest calamity if Ortega were President. Prieto repeated this everywhere, publicly and privately. The government knew Prieto, and knows him now. He was not molested then, because he seemed to be sincere in his opinion, but was disposed to no harm. Yet, on the 8th of December, the day before leaving Chihuahua, Prieto called to see the President, and asked for promotion; promised to support him in the papers, and offered to be his biographer and historian. The President declined his offers, and said he did not want any honest opinion sacrificed.

We hope these corrections will be sufficient, for limited space prevents further expatiation.

[Enclosure No. 7.—From the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, Chihuahua, September 14, 1866, No. 29.]

Letters of Gonzalez Ortega, Santa Anna, and Prieto.

We produce below some letters of these gentlemen, who are working for their private interests against the republic. Santa Anna's letter to Priest Ordonez may be found in the Diario del Imperio, with two from Prieto to his friends

Ortega's letter, and Prieto's to Negrete, have been sent to the government. We make no comments on these letters, because they need none. Strange means these gentlemen make use of to help themselves! Such chiefs as Tapia will never aid them. It is absurd to blame a minister because he acts with the President; and it is equally as ridiculous to think the government would recall Santa Anna. His allies are those interested individuals who would destroy the republic for their benefit. Calumny is vain when so patent and coming from persons so notorious:

NEW YORK, *April* 29, 1866.

RESPECTED FRIEND AND COMPANION: I have received yours of the 9th, with contents. I hope you have received mine with the circular. It is impossible to tell you in a letter all I have done, what I intend to do, and what will be done in many States of the republic. The loyal cause is saved. Chihuahua has been taken by Terrazas; but Don Benito says he will not leave El Paso yet. What does that mean?

I presume you have seen the papers with the diplomatic correspondence. The empire is dead, but there remain important questions to settle. You must operate in Matamoras; this is the propitious time. Notice the effect of the withdrawal of the French troops, and the prohibition to Austria by the United States to send any more to help Maximilian. My address is 143 East Eighth street, New York city. If absent, the letters will be forwarded to me. Respects to the boys and your family. Your friend,

JESUS G. ORTEGA.

General MIGUEL NEGRETE, *Brownsville.*

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, *May* 6, 1866.

VERY GOOD FRIEND: I enclose a letter to our friend Aureliano Rivera. Read it; I think you will find it excellent. I anxiously expect your letters. General Ortega sends much regard to you and Tapia, and says you will hear from him soon, and wishes you both to join him in the country's cause. He staid in New York to hear from California and to meet a person from the city of Mexico on very important business. He will soon be ready, and I congratulate you and the country upon the value of his services.

I have already told you of the capture of Chihuahua by the liberals. I hear Lerdo has resigned his position and has joined the Santa Anna party. They write me this from New York, and say the news has had a serious effect on the Juarez party there. I don't believe it, for you know Juarez will make every sacrifice to keep Lerdo with him.

Respects to Margarita and Miguelito, and all other friends, including yourself.

Yours, &c.,

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

General MIGUEL NEGRETE.

SAN ANTONIO DE BEJAR, *May* 11, 1866

DEAR FRIEND: Ortega will be here in a few days with Huerta, Ochoa, and other friends, to *act* immediately with you and Tapia. He ought to have been here long ago, to save bloodshed and direct operations properly. Patoni informs me that Ortega will leave New York about the end of this month. He has been detained there on important business.

Show this to Tapia and Rivera on the first opportunity.

Your friend and servant,

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

General MIGUEL NEGRETE.

SAN ANTONIO DE BEJAR, *May* 11, 1866.

General Ortega being personally acquainted with you, and knowing your elevated sentiments, charges me to write you in order that you may represent him in the city of Mexico.

The general, conjointly with Messrs. Huerta, Negrete, Patoni, Berriozabal, and other patriots, will appear in the republic with all the means necessary to give due activity to our operations, as well as in order that our principles may have a clear and legal representation there.

After the *coup d'état* I thought to continue in the most close retirement, but the alliance of Santa Anna with Juarez has compelled me to alter that design, and brought me in contact with Mr. Ortega. I believe that the object of the latter gentleman is to keep up the fight without entering into questions relating to right of command, and by no means take up arms against those of our friends

who are engaged in the same struggle, even though they do invoke the name of Juarez. Hence you can represent Mr. Ortega consistently with your refined patriotic sentiments. You can communicate with Mr. Ortega either directly, without further formalities, or through me.

As the American force which is at our service has not yet been able to provide itself with what it needs, Mr. Ortega has been forced to delay until now; but I have faith in his making up for lost time. Commence, then, your labors at once. Write according to what Mr. N—— tells you. I send him also a communication now. Inquire of him as to the way of writing to me.

Ever yours,

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

Señor DON JUAN MATEOS, *Mexico.*

SAN ANTONIO DE BEJAR, *June* 4, 1866.

DEAR FRIEND: I have been constantly writing to you without having received as yet a single reply. I am ill with dropsy; and, instead of relief from the quarter whence I should expect it, I have to complain that my trouble is increased by your silence. Any misunderstanding with you can have but sad consequences for our cause, and will raise up difficulties hereafter; but it depends upon your good will to avert such a result.

From what I see in the public prints, and ascertain by sounding public opinion, as well as from the faint echoes which reach my ears from all sides, I am forced to conclude that you [here the original Spanish shows that the writer is addressing more than one party.—ED. HERALD] are not satisfied with justifications of Juarez in his attempt at usurpation, but you even represent that act as one of heroism, as one of those noble sacrifices which great men make when risking their popularity and even renown for the salvation of their country. You compare Juarez to Quintus Curtius, [Marcus Curtius is, no doubt, meant.—ED. HERALD,] rushing into the abyss to save Rome. You look upon the question at issue entirely in a personal light; you speak of the glorious tradition followed out by Juarez, and compare it with what you style the discomfitures and puerilities of Ortega. But the point of difficulty does not lie there; it consists in the substitution of arbitrary power for law; in the dethronement of right to make way for usurpation. Ever since Juarez has cast aside legality as the rule of his public actions, he has been, as it were, halting in his movements; he holds on to the interests of his accomplices with more tenacity than he adheres to the real welfare of his country. He is forced to flatter those around him, and he can, in consequence, give but little thought to the wants of our people.

But you should have taken warning when Santa Anna presented himself on the scene as the ally of Juarez. Santa Anna wished to have the empire; he pronounced in favor of it. In infamy and treason he has outrivalled ———; but Saligny, as well as the head of the empire, found him too black with dishonor to have aught to do with him. Do you know what that bartered conscience, that foul wreck, is steering after? His own profit in some diplomatic speculation. And, indeed, ———, led somehow estray, has been used to bring Juarez and Santa Anna together. Well, the latter is to be made the instrument, through this connection, for satisfying the wishes of France and of the traitors who sold our country.

We had suspected some such mean farce, and what occurred on the removal of the seat of government to Chihuahua showed that our foresight was correct. Men who were imperialists but the day before, gave banquets to Juarez; the only absentees from such festivities, the only parties who were not received at them, were such as, like ourselves, had faithfully followed our national banner from the frontiers under his lead. Were we to accept Juarez's usurpation, cow-

ardly approve the dark and perfidious policy of Lerdo, and make common cause with those who pursue Gonzalez Ortega with invectives and injury, we should be violating law and trampling upon the interest of our country. Such a course could only pave the way for numberless evils, and compromise the future weal of our country to a most deplorable extent.

In New York we have no representatives other than bureaucratic ones. This is the result of Romero's sad policy. I understand well your reasons for staving off discussion at a time when our national troubles are unabated; but you should labor to form opinion among your friends, to prepare the means that should serve in the defence of a cause that is just, and to gather the materials that will insure happiness to our country after the triumph of the principles of social progress. I trust that you will gather your friends together, and that you will write to your acquaintances abroad on this subject. Answer me.

Your devoted friend,

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

P. S.—Write me under any name you please, but take care to mark one of the corners of the envelope thus—B. 167.

Señor DON JUAN MATEOS, *Mexico.*

[Enclosure No. 8.—From the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, Chihuahua, September 22, 1866.]

Prieto's letters.—We give another of his letters found in the Diario del Imperio of the 7th of August last.

We make no comments; we only republish it to show how discord is tried to be produced in the national cause.

His abuse of the President will not be noticed. He has a private grudge against Tejada. Speaking of Tapia, we said in our last number that Prieto called all he pleased his friends without consulting them. To prove this we insert a letter from Berriozabal, published in the New York Herald, with a proclamation by General Vega, in California. We insert Ignacio Pena Barragan's safe conduct to quit the city of Mexico, together with part of a letter from Monterey concerning Prieto:

SAN ANTONIO, *May* 6, 1866.

MY DEAR FELLOW: It seems impossible to get a letter from you, though I begged you to write to me. Are you so frightened by Juarez's ambition you cannot write? They say his decrees of the 8th November have been well received, and I believe it; nothing surprises me now.

You decide without investigating the case, because you compare a routed hero to a victorious one; because you distinguish between one who left the field of glory to spend his time riotously in New York; because you think all good officers side with Juarez; because you think the Juarez policy is right; but you are all mistaken, and you will see.

We are not for persons, and if Juarez and Ortega were contrasted, they would both lose. Ortega did not desert the cause any more than Doblado, Berriozabal, Alvarez, and Pena Barragan; he left by permission, and did not return, because he was ordered to be shot if he came back, like a traitor. As to the liberal chiefs, they all have indulgences from year to year. Canales, the most respectable, supports Ortega; so does Aureliano, Placido Vega, Huerta, Patoni, Quesada, Negrete, Tapia, Gomez, and many others; not excepting Cortinas, who joined Garza, the traitor. So you see if discord is introduced, and the rumor of it reaches the United States, it will ruin us.

The policy of the rector of San Ildefenso is to compromise with the traitors. He hates all reformers; he believes in nothing and respects nobody.

I do not mean to praise Ortega, or to create a disturbance; but I will support all who are struggling for independence. But we who are out of the country ought to know the truth, and unite with the most intelligent in the good cause.

Ortega wants to go back and fight, to show that he has been slandered. For my part, when I get my family into a safe place, I will be ready to fight with Naranjo, Canales, or any other, not caring who is President; only bent on mortal war against Frenchmen and traitors. Adieu. Write to me.

GUILLERMO PRIETO.

Direct your letters to some friend in Orleans, and get him to send them to me direct.

THE REVOLUTION IN MEXICO.

To the editor of the Herald:

In your issue of to-day you have published a letter signed "Guillermo Prieto," and dated "San Antonio Bejar, May 11, 1866," in which it is stated that General Gonzalez Ortega, together with Messrs. Huerta, Negrete, Patoni, and Berriozabal, will appear in the Mexican territory to give a new impulse, with large resources, to the defence of the republic, and "a full and legal representation to our principles," says Mr. Prieto. As this gentleman is known to advocate the pretensions of General Gonzalez Ortega to the presidency of Mexico, the meaning of his quoted words is very plain. Now, in what concerns me personally, I have to say that Mr. Prieto's statement is as false and groundless as the alliance of President Juarez and Santa Anna, to which he alludes. General Gonzalez Ortega and my friends residing in this country know full well my position in regard to the unlucky question raised by this general claiming the presidential chair; but some persons in Mexico might be induced into error by such loose assertions as Mr. Prieto's, and that is the reason I request of you the publication of these lines. The only truth contained in the cited letter, so far as relates to me, is that I shall soon go to my country in order to continue fighting for its independence and republican institutions, but it will be under the authority of its national government, now sitting at Chihuahua, the only one I have to obey as a general of the republic.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FELIPE B. BERRIOZABAL.

NEW YORK, *August* 16, 1866.

From P. Vega to Sebastian Lerdo de Tejado, minister of relations and government.

CHOIS, *September* 7, 1866.

On leaving San Francisco, the 8th of July, I informed you and our minister in Washington that I was about to return to the republic. I came to Boca de las Piedras, in the Fuerte district, on the 7th of August last, intending to join the President, but I have been detained.

I take the liberty to send you a few copies of the proclamation I intend to make, and I hope you will approve of them.

Yours, &c.,

P. VEGA.

THE PROCLAMATION.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN: Fate has been against me in the foreign commission intrusted to me by the supreme government of the republic; and I have thus been forced to absent myself from the seat of war, where, as a loyal Mexican, I was giving my best services to my country. But, thank Heaven, I am back upon the soil that gave me birth, and will have the gratification to offer myself a sacrifice in defence of the independence and liberty of my country.

While I was away I was rejoiced to hear you had saved the State from falling a pray to infamous invaders. Sinaloa has acted gloriously, and has distinguished herself. I congatulate citizen Rubi, our worthy governor, the indefatigable General Ramon Corona, the other chiefs and officers, and all of you, on your glorious victories, by which you have humbled the French; and I exhort you not to rest a single day, and you may be sure a happy time of peace and prosperity will come to bless our country. In my march to the interior of the republic I am attended by worthy chiefs, officers, and soldiers, many of whom distinguished themselves at the sieges of Puebla and Oaxaca, and other places. I have many strangers with me, who fought bravely for the cause of civilization and progress of the United States, and now come to us in accordance with the decree of the supreme government, issued in Monterey the 11th of August, 1864; and many good Mexicans follow me, anxious to serve their country. I am well supplied with arms, such as are now used in North America and England, and I invite you all who have no arms to join me and march where the first magistrate of the nation directs. Let your services be given in time, so that we may be the first to revel in the halls of the Montezumas.

Your friend and companion,

PLACIDO VEGA.

In the town of ZARAGOZA, *August* 15, 1866.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, BRANCH OF WAR AND NAVY.

By order of his majesty the emperor, I grant a safe conduct to Don Ignacio de la Pena y Barragan to pass freely, and with all safety, to live at the Hacienda del Hospital, near Cuantla de Morelos; and the military authorities are charged not to prosecute him or molest him on account of his past political conduct. And for his protection the present is given to him, in the palace of Mexico, on the sixteenth day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-four.

JUAN DE D. PEZA.

MONTEREY, *August* 26, 1865.

SIR: Don Guillermo Prieto wrote from San Antonio saying he was sorry for his conduct towards General Gonzalez Ortega, and asks permission to return here. He was directed to apply to Juarez for permission, and if it was obtained he would be allowed to return.

Yours, &c,

———— ————.

Mr. ————, *in Chihuahua.*

No. 133.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 13, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 31st ultimo, containing various documents relating to the claim of General Ortega to the constitutional presidency of Mexico.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 134.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, December 8, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to remit to you a copy of No. 36 of the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, of the 3d November last, in which are published some documents which bear relation to the conduct which Don Jesus Gonzalez Ortega has observed abroad, and which I think will be read with interest by the government of the United States.

I avail of this occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.—Translated from the official paper of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, of November 3, 1866, No. 36.]

We publish in the official portion what relates to a permission which General Ortega pretended to give for the coining of Mexican money abroad. Putting aside the pretension of this gentleman to be President of Mexico, and the attempt to exercise acts of authority within the territory of a foreign country, the idea of permitting the money of a nation to be coined abroad is such a thing as needs not be anlayzed; at once one perceives the degradation of consenting to the coinage abroad of the type of a national sovereignty, as well as the incalculable responsibility and innumerable abuses to which this might give place. Mr. Ortega said in his manifesto that although it belonged to him to exercise the presidency of the republic, he did not desire to come to exercise it, in order not to introduce discord among the defenders of the nation; the very style of the manifest gave the lie to the sincerity of these expressions, and. as was to be supposed, he has taken upon himself promptly to go on giving them the lie by actions.

He has not come to the republic, seeing that all repelled him; but he pretends to the exercise of authority in foreign countries, and there conspires to procure others to support him. Already various evidences of this have been published, and now we place in continuation copy of an intercepted letter of his, which he was sending to General Negrete, according to the direction given therein.

We leave to the readers to pass upon the measures by which Mr. Ortega seeks to gain some partisans, by appealing to suppositions which are belied the next day, as that the government of the United States, for instance, had recognized him. Nothing need now astonish one as to those who resolve to employ such measures.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

NEW YORK, *August* 28, 1866.

ESTEEMED SIR: Enclosed herein I forward to your excellency a copy of the agreement into which I have entered with General J. G. Ortega for the establishment of a mint in San Francisco. As I have neither the wish nor the expectation that said Señor Ortega may succeed in setting up his authority and cabinet within the Mexican republic, as he contemplates doing, and as I desire to obtain this right of coining Mexican money in San Francisco, I hope that

your excellency, as well as President Juarez, will deem it of great advantage to grant me this privilege on the conditions expressed in the copy which I forward herewith. All the papers, as well as the $60,000 referred to therein, are to pass through the hands of Minister Romero. * * * Señor Ortega goes to Matamoras to-morrow or the day after, and Señor Ochoa will be accredited to Washington as soon as Señor Ortega shall have set up his government at Matamoras.

We are quite elated here, because the latest news leaves no room for doubt as to Maximilian's departure and the ultimate triumph of the liberal cause.

WILLIAM H. McKEE.

Señor DON J. M. IGLESIAS,
Minister of the Treasury, &c., Chihuahua.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

NEW YORK, *July* 24, 1866.

In the exercise of ample power for such purposes, I have given permission to Dr. William H. McKee to coin in the city of San Francisco, California, United States, money having the form, value and legality of Mexican currency, on the conditions which you will settle in accordance with the instructions which I have given you. I reserve to myself the ratification of the contract. For this purpose I hereby commission and authorize you to act in the premises, and this note shall serve as your credentials therefor.

Independence and constitution!

JESUS G. ORTEGA,
Constitutional President of the Mexican Republic.

Citizens General EPILACIO HUERTO, *Governor of Michoacan,*
and FERNANDO MARIA ORTEGA, *Governor of Puebla.*

[Enclosure No. 4.]

The conditions agreed upon are as follows:

ARTICLE 1. The Mexican government concedes to Señor McKee the privilege of coining Mexican money in the city of San Francisco, California, United States.

ART. 2. The money so coined shall have the same form, value, and legality as that which is now current in Mexico, and Señor McKee, or the company he represents, shall be held responsible therefor.

ART. 3. The government shall appoint an employé, to be paid out of the public treasury; he shall represent said government in said mint.

ART. 4. The present grant is for the term of thirty years from date; and no other similar one shall be made for a mint in any place within the United States.

ART. 5. Senor McKee shall pay $60,000 in consideration of this privilege, as soon as the Mexican minister, appointed by said President, shall be recognized at Washington.

ART. 6. There shall be two copies of this agreement made out, and signed by both parties, one for each.

E. HUERTA.
F. M. ORTEGA.
W. H. McKEE.

NEW YORK, *July* 24, 1866.

I approve and ratify the foregoing contract, in the name of the republic of Mexico, as constitutional President of that nation.

JESUS G. ORTEGA.

NEW YORK, *July* 24, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

MINISTRY OF THE TREASURY AND PUBLIC CREDIT,
Chihuahua, October 29, 1866.

Enclosed in your communication of August 28 last, which I received long after due, were copies of the documents relating to a contract into which General J. G. Ortega went through the forms of making with you for the establishing of a mint in San Francisco, California.

General Gonzalez Ortega, who calls himself the constitutional President of the Mexican republic, and who pretends to govern said republic from abroad, exercises therein no public authority of any kind whatsoever, nor has he the right to exercise any. Hence the acts by which he aims at exercising the authority of legitimate governor of Mexico are null and void.

As to the request which you make that the citizen President of the republic, Benito Juarez, will grant the privilege for the establishment of a mint in San Francisco, in California, on the same conditions as those contained in the contract which General Gonzalez Ortega pretends to have made with you, it is impossible to accede to such a request. The coinage of money being one of the attributes of the national sovereignty, it should not take place outside of the national territory over which such sovereignty is exercised. No motive nor any condition can justify such a concession.

Independence, liberty, and reform!

IGLESIAS.

Dr. WM. H. MCKEE.

[Enclosure No. 6.]

NEW YORK, *June* 25, 1866.

DEAR FRIEND: I venture to address you this letter; but I do so on account of the urgency of the affair, and because I am aware of your patriotism.

The United States government has refused to recognize Don Benito Juarez, on account of his lack of any legitimate title or constitutional power to negotiate with said government a loan of $50,000,000, and in consequence of this it has recognized me as the constitutional President. I believe that before ten days the loan of fifty millions of dollars will be all settled.

It is important that you send word immediately to Garcia de la Cadena, to Ausa, and to Sanchez Roman, urging that they issue proclamations recognizing the constitutional government of Mexico, and setting forth that such has always been the sentiment of the State of Zacatecas, whose guide is always the law, and whose standard is the constitution, and stating that this proclamation is made at the present time in order to solemnly record that sentiment of the people of Zacatecas, and to aid the national cause. Have them to publish the proclamation, so that not only the attention of the public, but that of the press, may be attracted thereto. I wish that the State of Zacatecas may occupy a worthy rank in the salvation of our law, our independence, and the forms of republican government. I desire that the State of Aguas Calientes should figure in the same position.

Tell Garcia de la Cadena that Ferniza acted with shrewdness and prudence, and did not deliver the letters to those for whom they were intended, but he retains them still in his possession; so Señor Cadena is not in the least compromised. Ferniza will set out in a few days, and will cross the deserts on the frontier. He will bear with him instructions for the arrangement of some way to forward arms and means on a scale corresponding to an affair of so great magnitude as the present. Send word also to Aureliano, and give him a copy of this note.

In a few days I will set out for Mexico. I will cross the frontier; and, should not any obstacle be put in my way by the United States, I mean to cross with a lot of American volunteers. Still, I do not think that any difficulty will arise, judging from the letters which I receive.

The personal interests of Don Benito Juarez have prevented Mexico from realizing her salvation. She could have secured it had he not broken the order established by law. The blood that has been uselessly spilt these last few months is exclusively upon him; for the efforts made by the Mexican people have proved feeble and sterile through the fault of said Don Benito Juarez.

We should learn from a foreign nation how to respect law. Tell all our friends, in my name, that before six or eight months we shall have finished our work.

Your friend,

J. G. ORTEGA.

General Don Miguel Negrete.

September 10, 1866.

True copy:

Dr. ARROYO.

R. Garcia Hernandez, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 7.—From the New York Tribune, November 21, 1866.]

To the editor of the New York Tribune:

Sir: If Ortega has done nothing on United States soil which may be properly construed into conspiracy against a neighboring power with which we hold friendly relations, and has been guilty of no other act violating the neutrality laws, then I concur with you in the opinion that our government has no right to interfere by arresting him. His conduct, after crossing the Rio Grande, is the affair of Mexico; and it does not alter the law of the case that the Mexican people, with a unanimity far greater even than that which was shown in our own recent elections, have already decided against him and for Juarez.

But I do not agree in the view you seem inclined to take of that decision. I think the Mexicans decided rightfully as well as unanimously. It would be superfluous to debate this here, in the United States, were it not that an opinion favorable to Ortega's claims, if given in a paper so influential as the Tribune, must place serious embarrassments in the way of the Mexican liberals. This, I know well, is a result furthest possible from your intentions.

But thus it acts. For four years past the French invaders have had possession of the Mexican seaports, and have seized and appropriated all the revenue from imports. But nearly four-fifths of the public revenues of the Mexican government is derived from the tariff. Add to this that the people, harassed and pillaged, have had little means left, however well disposed, to contribute support to the constitutional government. That government, thus nearly beggared, had nothing left but the resort to which all civilized nations have at times been forced—a public loan. She needs imperatively arms, munitions, and military appointments; but she has nothing with which to pay for these except her bonds, duly authorized by Juarez and certified by his accredited minister. Though her entire public debt does not exceed $100,000,000, yet, because of her uncertain fortunes, her credit is low, and she has to dispose of these bonds at 60 cents to the dollar in payment of the supplies she needs. You make it very difficult for her to do even this; you strengthen the hands of speculators who seek to impose upon her still harder conditions, for you supply to them arguments going to depreciate the credit of the Juarez government. It is bad enough for an exhausted nation to have to receive 60 and pay some day 100 in

return, with seven per cent. interest on that 100 till paid. You aggravate the hardship when you intimate that perhaps Juarez has no rightful claim to the position he holds.

If he *had*, in point of fact, no such claim, good and well: let the truth be told, no matter whom it injures. But is that so?

The technical period when Juarez's term expired was the 1st of December last. Seven months later, Ortega put forth his claim in a pamphlet, in English, published here; an appeal, in fact, against his own nation to ours. This pamphlet had an appendix of twenty-six pages, entitled "Letters in ratification of his position." It discloses the fact that, after seven months' delay, Ortega could muster but nine indorsers, every one Mexican refugees—four living in Texas, five in New York. There were two ex-governors of States, two ex-brigadier generals, one ex-postmaster general, one ex-colonel—all disaffected officials like Ortega himself, and, like him, all absent from their native country in her hour of danger and suffering. Three more, an ex-editor and two unknown individuals, made up the list.

To this pamphlet the friends of Juarez issued a reply. Its appendix contains letters from every governor of a State in Mexico, then acting as such, to the number of twelve, besides despatches from the principal corps commanders then in the field, and communications from other public men. Every one of these sanctions Juarez's action, and approves, in unqualified terms, his continuance in office as legal and in accordance with the will of the people, so far as it was possible to ascertain that will.

The pamphlet further says: "Not a governor of a State, not a town or city under native rule, but has declared for the continuance in his present position of President Juarez. Nay more—not a Mexican citizen, resident in Mexico, has, in public harangue or in private communication, expressed disapprobation of the extension of Juarez's term of office."

The grounds upon which this acquiescence rests (aside from the love and trust borne by the nation for their long-tried leader, Benito Juarez) seem to be the following:

The Mexican constitution differs from ours in this—that no one but the man actually voted for as President is, under any circumstances, permanently to occupy the presidential chair. In temporary default of a President, (Art. 79,) the president of the supreme court of justice shall serve. If the default of President be absolute, (Art. 80,) a new election shall be forthwith held. If the election of President shall not have been published by the first of December, (Art. 82,) the president of the supreme court shall be President provisionally. The word in the original is *intermamente*, strictly translated *temporarily*.

Taken alone and according to its letter, article 82 gives the presidency temporarily to Ortega as chief justice. But, taken in connection with the articles which precede it, and in view of the well-known intent of its framers, and yet more especially interpreted in the light of that policy which distinguishes the Mexican constitution from ours, namely, that he only shall permanently act as President who was elected to be President, not he who was elected as a temporary substitute, it would have been a direct violation of the spirit of the constitution had the substitute, it a crisis like the present, become the principal.

The default of the President, in his case, was absolute, not temporary, and in such a case there is but one constitutional remedy—a new election shall be held. That could not be because of the French invasion. The case provided for in article 82 is not one in which it was impossible to hold an election, but one in which an election, being possible, was not held or was not published. The intent was to guard against some intrigue of an unscrupulous incumbent, a contingency much more likely to happen under an unsettled government like the Mexican than among us. But no one doubts Juarez's great desire, had it been possible, to hold an election; and as little can we doubt that, in case of such an

election, he would have been, by an overwhelming majority, the people's choice.

These are the arguments of Juarez's friends. Good or bad, they have been indorsed by the Mexicans themselves, the sole judges in this case. To go behind their decision is to do them an injury by increasing the difficulty of re-establishing among them constitutional rule.

Perhaps you doubt whether they are steady and patriotic enough to do this. I do not doubt it. I think we are too much inclined to undervalue other races than our own, and too little disposed to make allowance for the difficulties under which such races often labor. The Mexican race, when Cortez found them, mild and friendly, had made encouraging advances towards civilization. Since then they have been trodden under the heel of despotism. The French usurpation is but the last in a long series of outrages. For nearly three centuries they suffered under Spanish viceregal rule, intensified by religious bigotry, as odious a government as the world ever saw; and when relieved from that they fell into the hands of an unscrupulous church, with vast temporal possesions—$300,000,000 of real estate, including half the city of Mexico. The ecclesiastical revenues from this source amounted to $25,000,000 annually, amply sufficient in that country to carry on war, and employed by the Mexican church throughout the last thirty years for that very purpose against the liberals who sought to throw off so grievous a burden. These last succeeded in that attempt only in 1859, under Juarez, all the church property beyond its legitimate means of support being then secularized—that is, disposed of for the public benefit.

The Mexicans had their slavery as well as we; only ours was secular, theirs ecclesiastical. They, like us, have rid themselves of it, and are prepared, as we are, to enter untramelled on a new career of progress. Let us bid them God-speed. Let us place no stumbling-block in their way; that is the least we can do for them.

That the Mexican republicans will ever recognize, or that we, in any shape, shall ever assume the $300,000,000 of debt incurred by France and by Maximilian in an iniquitous attempt to subvert a republic and erect by force a monarchy on its ruins, is incredible. No Mexican congress will ever ask for such assumption, and no American congress will ever agree to it.

A FRIEND TO REPUBLICAN MEXICO.

NEW YORK, *November* 17, 1866.

No. 135.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 17, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 8th instant, containing a copy of the official paper of your government, (No. 36,) of the 3d of November last, in which the situation of Don Luis Gonzalez Ortega is referred to, and to thank you for its transmission.

I embrace the present occasion, sir, to reiterate to you expressions of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 136.

Mr. Stanton to Mr. Seward.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, December 8, 1866.

SIR: I enclose herewith a copy of a report received this day from General Grant, transmitting a protest of J. G. Ortega against his arrest, and expressing concurrence in the remarks thereon of Major General Sheridan, by whom the protest was forwarded.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

CONSTITUTIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE MEXICAN REPUBLIC.

BRAZOS, *November 5*, 1866.

CAPTAIN: At the city of New Orleans, I, with six other Mexican citizens, embarked on board of the United States steamer St. Mary. The following are the names of those six: General Epitacio Heurta, ex-governor of the State of Michoacan; General Fernando M. Ortega, governor and military commander of the State of Puebla; Colonels Juan Togur and Joaquin S. Ortega, Commander Carlos Ortega, and Captain Guilcoga. We came under the protection of the United States flag, because we journeyed in the waters of that nation, and in a steamer that raised on high the starry pavilion. We came under the safeguard and guarantees which the laws and Constitution of that republic grant to all strangers who tread her soil. I moreover had with me guarantees and privileges, with repeated protests in official documents made by the government of this nation, not to intervene in the internal political questions of Mexico, which to her alone belongs the right of salvation—guarantees which in the sense tacitly granted me my proper political character, that of being the constitutional President of Mexico, which title I have justly obtained by a precept of the fundamental law of the country, and also by the spontaneous and free vote of its people. It is not out of place for me to tell you here that the press of the United States has been extensively engaged in noting this, and that I have caused to be published, in English, official documents which throw upon this question all necessary light. Therefore, I believe no authority can ignore the political and military significance which I have in all local and foreign questions of my country.

Upon my arrival at this place, and before I had stepped ashore, you presented yourself in the presence of the captain of the steamer, showing me an order signed by General Sheridan, commander of the department of the Gulf, in which you are ordered to arrest me, and those persons who accompany me, without giving any reasons for this act, (or much less having one,) because not even apparently have I broken the laws of neutrality of this country. What if I have political intention which I think of putting in practice in Mexico as a fulfilment of my duty, and to save my country from anarchy; this is not, nor can it be made, a just reason for my apprehension in a country who has protested against all intervention in the politics of others.

You complied with the order and I was immediately arrested. I yielded to the force of this violent act, common and frequent in a despotic monarchy, but unusual in a republic like the United States.

I only limited myself to asking a copy of the order, so as to protest against this act. You will please furnish me with an official copy.

You offered to give General Sedgwick, commander of the frontier, and stationed at Brownsville, immediate information of this act, so as to abide by his instructions, (for you were so ordered,) and that I might know my final destination. In the copy of the note which you have just sent me, I perceive it is ordered that we shall remain in prison until further orders, unless we desire to return to New Orleans, which we are permitted to do, returning on the same steamer. Nothing is said of the reason or motive why I am imprisoned. It is easy to conceive that a political reason dictates it, to impede in an illegal manner, and against all right, my entry into Mexican territory, for no reason that I can comprehend now, but which posterity in its march will reveal. I do not believe the people of the United States or the government of that great nation participate in this act. To them I look for reparation.

I verbally informed you that the Constitution and laws of the United States had conceded to me certain individual guarantees which this violent act exercised against my person had broken.

I asked your protection in the name of these laws, as you are actually in command of the American forces. You answered me, that as a soldier you could not; that you must obey the orders given you by your superiors.

I told you that, as the legitimate constitutional President of the Mexican republic, and invested by that nation in that political character, my arrest signified a marked partiality, and was equivalent to a piercing of those official compromises which the United States had contracted for political and convenient reasons, not to intervene in the internal question of Mexico. To this you gave the same answer.

Finally, I told you that it was another act of violence against my person to undertake to make for me the exclusive right of returning to New Orleans.

This is equivalent to obliging me to remain in the United States contrary to my will. I said to you, also, that admitting this act of violence by which I was made a prisoner without those guarantees and liberties allowed by law, if I returned to New Orleans, would it be as a prisoner, or would I have the privilege to dispose of my person as convenience might dictate?

Before might, I had at last (as is natural) to still the voice of right and reason. But right and reason are the great powers of this republic, and they are on my side, and it will not be long before they are heard. Now, I have no other means left me but the offering of the following protest:

1st. I protest against the violent act of the military force exercised against my person, apprehending me on board the steamer St. Mary, and keeping me imprisoned until to-day, without any reason to justify this violent act, thereby disregarding individual guarantees given by the laws of this country to foreigners travelling therein.

2d. I protest in the name of the Mexican republic, whose powers I exercise as President thereof, against this said act, because it imparts an indirect interference by the armed forces of the United States in the solution of local Mexican questions.

Notwithstanding the knowledge I have of the generous and loyal sympathies of the American people in favor of the Mexican republic and the advancing party of that nation, and notwithstanding, also, the knowledge I have that this powerful moral aid can save the independence of my country, still, in what pertains to the privileged administration of its affairs, I do not think the American people have any right to interfere.

And I again protest, as President of Mexico, against all acts which directly or indirectly tend by forcible means to impose upon the Mexican people, in the character of government, the faction represented by Mr. Benito Juarez, who ceased to exercise all legitimate power over that nation from the day the political

constitution of the country so decreed, and that constitution has been broken by that faction. A constitution, captain, is the social reasoning of a free nation; it is the act by which the people show their voluntary sovereignty, and it is the only base upon which a republic can rest. And when once this ceases to exist, then, of necessity, come chaos and anarchy.

In the name of that same nation, and in fulfilment of my duty, I declare as treasonable towards the Mexican people all acts which have been and may be exercised by Mr. Benito Juarez, and his minister at Washington, Mr. Matias Romero, who by intrigue, and with the help of other means equally condemned, and by foreign aid and usurped power, scorning all republican principles, and impeding, by this, my entrance into Mexico; although the people have no legitimate authority to protect them, and the destruction of the very origin of its constitution is passed as a necessity.

What a conquest! What is the standard of that peace which has cost that people thousands of victims and ten years of a bloody and continued war?

You will please, captain, forward this communication to whom it may concern, and accept the assurances of our personal appreciation.

Independence and constitution!

J. G. ORTEGA.

Captain JOHN PAULSON,
Post Commander, Present.

[Enclosure No. 2.—Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
New Orleans, November 30, 1866.

On or about the 24th June, 1866, the city of Matamoras was surrendered by the imperialists to the forces of the liberal government of Mexico, and soon thereafter the city of Monterey and all of eastern and northern Mexico. In process of time the imperial forces were driven to the valley of Mexico and the line connecting the city of Mexico and Vera Cruz, and it became reasonable to suppose that the imperial government would be driven out of the country. The acknowledged head of the liberal government of Mexico during all these important events was President Juarez, and it is well known that General Ortega fled his country and took no part in bringing about these events, but, on the contrary, he, while in a foreign country, did as much as he could to counteract them by creating political divisions, and by the publication of real or pretended rights, as constitutional President of Mexico.

So far as this went it did not interfere with my command, and there was no violation of our neutrality laws; but this did not satisfy General Ortega or his schemers, but an appeal to arms must be made to enforce his claims, and combinations were formed in New York and Brownsville within the United States for an armed assertion of his claims at the expense of a violation of our neutrality laws.

To counteract these machinations, and to prevent our neutrality laws, from being violated, my letter of October 23 to General Sedgwick was written and a copy of it placed in the hands of General Ortega, in the city of New Orleans. Not heeding this, but under the belief that we gave directions in our country for buncombe, General Ortega was about to cross the line of our frontier, and was arrested on the same principle that the Fenians were arrested in attempting to violate our laws by the invasion of Canada.

Since the termination of the rebellion, the people of the United States have suffered in trade, from the disturbed condition of affairs on the Rio Grande line, about twelve million of dollars yearly—first by imperialism; then by the hos-

tility of foreign merchants in Matamoras, who set up such men as Canales and Ortega, supporting them and reimbursing themselves by passing goods out from the city free, or nearly free, of duty.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major General.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the General-in-chief.

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY,
December 8, 1866.

Respectfully forwarded to the Secretary of War. I concur in the views expressed by General Sheridan in his indorsement hereon.

U. S. GRANT, *General.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

Telegram of General Sheridan to General Grant.

OFFICE U. S. MILITARY TELEGRAPH, WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., November 27, 1866.

[Time, 4.30 p. m.—From New Orleans, La., November 27, 1866.]

SIR: I am just in receipt of news from Brownsville, and fear that General Sedgwick, commanding the sub-district of the Rio Grande, will, for some unaccountable and unjustifiable reason, demand of Canales the surrender of the town of Matamoras, on the plea of preventing the pillage of houses of Americans, &c.

The situation there is this: General Escobedo is in front of the city with about three thousand five hundred men, and Canales offered to surrender if the liberal government would pay the merchants who have been supporting him in his illegal and infamous acts. This Escobedo would not agree to. I very much fear that these very merchants have in some way gotten around Sedgwick, and have prompted him to this action which he contemplates. I have heretofore notified you that these very merchants were at the bottom of all troubles over there. There is perfect harmony between Sedgwick and Escobedo, and no objections are made to the contemplated act of General Sedgwick. Should General Sedgwick act as I have some reason to expect, I will at once disapprove of his action and relieve him from his command. I have telegraphed to General Sedgwick disapproving his contemplated act, or any action he may have taken in view of it.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major General U. S. Army.

General U. S. GRANT, *Commanding Army.*

[Enclosure No. 4.—Indorsement on the above.]

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY,
November 30, 1866.

Respectfully forwarded to the Secretary of War for his information.

U. S. GRANT, *General.*

(Received 3.20 p. m., November 30, 1866.)

Respectfully referred to the Secretary of State.

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

Major General Sheridan to Brevet Major General Rawlins.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
New Orleans, La., December 11, 1866.

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report of my recent trip to the Rio Grande frontier:

I arrived at Brownsville at 4 o'clock on the morning of the 6th instant, and found that on the 24th of November General Sedgwick, commanding the subdistrict of the Rio Grande, had demanded and received the surrender of the city of Matamoras from Canales, who arbitrarily held possession of the city against the legitimate authority of his government; that, on the 30th ultimo, the few United States troops (about fifty) holding the city had been withdrawn, in obedience to instructions sent by me, disapproving the act of occupation or any action arising from it.

The motives which influenced Brevet Brigadier General Sedgwick in this act are unknown to me; but the alleged one, of protecting American citizens and their property, was in violation of a decision made by the honorable Secretary of State on this subject, which decision is on file in his office.

The case presents itself to my mind in this way: After the surrender of Matamoras to General Carvajal, the merchants of Matamoras, most of them foreign-born, and some claiming American citizenship, but ultra Maximilian adherents, and blockade-runners during the rebellion, induced Canales (a noted character) to pronounce against the authority of the liberal government. They had two objects in this: first, to help the imperial cause, by creating as much dissension as possible among the liberal leaders; second, that they might pass out goods from the city, free of duty, or nearly so.

This worked well for them, and goods said to amount to a large sum of money were so moved out.

This condition of affairs continued until General Escobedo, in command of the liberal forces, advanced troops against Matamoras for its recapture. Pending this event, Ortega was sent for, and as Canales was a usurper, it was necessary to support him by a more noted character like Ortega. But Ortega having been arrested at Brazos Santiago, and Escobedo having laid siege to the city, these merchants were obliged to change their plans. They then proposed that Canales should surrender the city to Escobedo, if Escobedo would agree to pay them the money given or said to have been given to Canales, the amount being some ($600,000) six hundred thousand dollars. This Escobedo refused, and fearing that they would lose their claim and perhaps their property, if the city was taken, they brought their influence to bear on Brevet Brigadier General Sedgwick. * * * This is the point of the whole affair.

The occupation of the city was a mere matter of form, and had the consent of General Escobedo, who made no objections, and since the city passed into his hands has called on General Sedgwick in the most friendly manner, and asked me to forgive his action.

* * * * * * * * *

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major General U. S. Army.

Brevet Major General J. A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.

[Indorsements on the above.]

HEADQUARTERS U. S. A., *December* 18, 1866.

Respectfully forwarded to the Secretary of War for his information.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brevet Major General, Chief of Staff,
(In absence of General Grant.)

WAR DEPARTMENT, *December* 18, 1866.

Copy respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of State, for his information.

[Enclosure No. 6.—From the Rio Grande Courier, Brownsville, December 7, 1866]

THE OCCUPANCY OF MATAMORAS.

From the despatches which appear in the northern papers, via Louisville, coupled with the arrival of General Sheridan at this point, it would seem well settled that Colonel Thomas D. Sedgwick either has been or immediately will be relieved from the command of the sub-district of the Rio Grande.

While the primary cause of this is, no doubt, the dissatisfaction felt by high authority on account of his course in the late occupancy of Matamoras, yet it is more than probable that some change would, in any case, have occurred at an early date.

While we know of no earthly reason for reflecting upon the good intentions of Colonel Sedgwick, yet it has been well understood that the delicate position of affairs here requires a man of enlarged experience, both in military and civil matters. Colonel Sedgwick came to the command by virtue of his seniority of rank solely, and without regard to fitness or qualification. He did not seek the place. Indeed, without claiming to speak by authority, we think we can safely say that he accepted it only because his official duty did not allow him to decline it.

It has so happened that the difficulties over the river, and the machinations upon this side, have been far greater and more numerous than usual during his administration, making his duties the more intricate and arduous.

It is impossible for either the authorities at New Orleans or at Washington to lay down a course of conduct to be followed in every case which may arise. All they can do is to mark out a general line of policy, leaving to the good sense and judgment of the commander here to attend to the details. To do this is ofttimes the most difficult part of the task.

The interests upon the other side of the Rio Grande are so often complicated, the leaders so numerous, their professions so persistent, and their skill at diplomacy so great, backed up as they are by any number of shrewd, intelligent lawyers, that he is indeed a man of unusual intelligence who can cope with them, and for this reason we say, as we have before said, that there is no place upon the continent where a commanding officer of great capacity and firmness is more required.

In the late fiasco—for such it was—Colonel Sedgwick has been simply outwitted by a combination of military and civil influences, the latter mostly of American nationality.

The foreign merchants and capitalists of Matamoras, who have been compelled to advance money to Canales, were naturally enough anxious for its return. Escobedo, in all attempts which were made at negotiations, persistently refused to recognize Canales's engagements. These merchants were consequently opposed to any surrender of the city which would involve the loss of

the money advanced by them. Many of them were Americans, and in these matters had the ear of the commanding officer. In their advice and representations they were of course influenced by their interests. They were also in the confidence of Canales, for, in the matter pending, their interests lay with him. With these and with Canales, who professedly recognized Juarez as President, Colonel Sedgwick had to deal; every question which might at the same time arise, the more complicated by the presence of an army, under the command of the recognized representative of Juarez, besieging the city, for whose success General Sedgwick was at all times anxious. The result was a blunder, which, in its practical results, was in this instance "worse than a crime." The object desired, viz., the advancement of Escobedo's interest, was not obtained, but rather the contrary, as the presence of the American force, in the attack which followed, contributed very greatly to the success of Canales. Nor, as it seems, were the wishes of the government carried out, as in rendering assistance to Juarez his instructions did not warrant the occupancy of American (Mexican) territory. The result was Colonel Sedgwick's removal. Though not as generally well known as his predecessors, socially he has been popular with our citizens, and aside from his official duties, his departure from among us, should this be involved, will be regretted. In commenting upon his course in the late affair, this journal has felt compelled to criticise it with some severity. The result has shown that we were correct. In doing so, we have been actuated by no unkind feelings to Colonel Sedgwick, but have acted solely for the honor and interest of the American name.

No. 9.

CUSTOM-HOUSE DUTIES AT ACAPULCO.

List of papers.

137. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with one enclosure) ..... May 3, 1866.
138. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero ..... July 6, 1866.
139. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with two enclosures) ..... Oct. 8, 1866.
140. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero ..... Oct. 12, 1866.

No. 137.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, May 3, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: Referring to my note of the 24th of February last to your department, relative to certain duties collected in Acapulco by the governor of the State of Guerrero, I have the honor to send you the copy of a communication I have received from Mr. Lerdo de Tejada, minister of foreign relations of the Mexican republic, dated at Paso del Norte the 31st of March following, and numbered 180, explaining why that business has not yet been decided upon by the Mexican government.

I accept the opportunity of renewing to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

No. 180.] DEP'T OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT,
Paso del Norte, March 31, 1866.

I have received your note No. 88 of the 7th of February last, with a copy of Mr. Seward's to you on the same day, in regard to the custom-house duties ordered to be collected from certain American citizens in Acapulco by the governor of the State of Guerrero.

In your note of the 24th of the same month, No. 133, you said you had received mine of the 22d of January, No. 22, in which I told you what the minister of hacienda had communicated on the subject, a copy of which you transmitted to Mr. Seward.

I now send a copy of your note No. 88, with Mr. Seward's to you on the 7th of February, to the minister of hacienda, as it is his duty to decide the affair, which has not been settled for want of the proper information from the governor of Guerrero, and which could not be had on account of the distance and the insecurity of the roads.

Accept my attentive consideration.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

Citizen MATIAS ROMERO,
Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Mexican Republic.

WASHINGTON, *May* 3, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 138.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 6, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 3d of May last, containing a letter addressed to you by Mr. Lerdo de Tejada, explanatory of the dilatoriness on the part of the Mexican government in attending to the matter concerning certain duties collected in Acapulco by the governor of the State of Guerrero.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 139.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, October 8, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: Referring to the note which I addressed to your department on the 3d of May last, relating to certain duties collected at Acapulco from citizens of the United States by General Don Diego Alvarez, governor of the State of Guerrero, I have now the honor to remit to you a copy of a note from Mr. Lerdo de Tejada, minister for foreign relations of the Mexican republic, dated at Chihuahua, the 6th September last, marked No. 428, with which a copy was

sent me of a communication from the minister of finance and public credit of the same date, transcribing a despatch from General Alvarez, dated the 1st June last, in which he expresses the reasons for which he thinks it necessary to reserve, until the port of Acapulco may be evacuated by the enemy, the report required from him on that incident.

I gladly avail myself of this occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.—Translation.]

No. 428.] DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT,
Chihuahua, September 6, 1866.

I send you a copy annexed of a communication from the minister of finance of this date, in which he transcribes that which was addressed to him on the 1st June by the governor of the State of Guerrero, setting before him the reasons why he thought it necessary to reserve, until the port of Acapulco was unoccupied by the enemy, the report called for from him respecting the exaction from some American citizens of payment of duties of customs which they had already paid to the French commanders during their anterior stay at that port.

Please give account of this communication to the Hon. Mr. Seward; in it the circumstances are indicated which delayed the information sought for.

I express to you my most respectful consideration.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

Citizen MATIAS ROMERO,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister of the Mexican Republic.

WASHINGTON, *October* 8, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.—Translation.]

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND PUBLIC CREDIT,
Chihuahua, September 6, 1866.

The governor and military commander of the State of Guerrero says to me, under date of 1st June last, as I copy:

"Your despatch of 11th April is received, in which you request this government to report what was the cause of deciding that some American citizens should pay again the duties they had already satisfied with the French authorities during their stay in Acapulco. I have the honor to say, in reply, that as soon as that port may be left unoccupied by the enemy, I will send the report in question, because it is not proper to the public service to send it now, because there is no security that the correspondence may reach the point intended, as perhaps it would fall into the enemy's hands, which I think it prudent to avoid because there is in question a matter which may commit persons who are living there, which I transcribe to you for your information,

IGLESIAS.

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS.

A true copy:

JUAN VALDEZ,
Principal Officer.

WASHINGTON, *October* 8, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary*

LEGACION MEXICANA EN LOS E. UNIDOS DE AMERICA,
Washington, 8 *de Octubre de* 1866.

Señor SECRETARIO: Refiriendome á la nota que deriji á ese departamento el 3 de Mayo ultimo, relativamente á ceirtos derechos cobrados en Acapulco á ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos por el General Don Diego Alvarez, gobernador del Estado de Guerrero, tengo ahora la honra de remitir á V. copia de una nota del Sr. Lerdo de Tejada, ministro de relaciones exterioros de la república Mexicana, fechada en Chihuahua el 6 de Setiembre proximo pasado y marcada número 428, con la que se me euvia copia de una comunicacion del ministerio de hacienda y crédeto público, de la misma fecha transcribiendo un oficio del General Alvarez fechado el 1° de Junio último, en que espresa los motivos por que cree necesario reservar para cuando el puerto de Acapulco sea evacuado por el enemigo, el informe que se le pidio sobre aquel incidente.

Aproveche gustoso esta oportunidad para renovar á V, Señor Secretario, las seguridado de mi mas distinguida consideracion.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 1.

Número 428.] MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES Y GOBERNACION,
Chihuahua, Setiembre 6 *de* 1866.

Envio á V. copia anexa de una comunicacion del ministro de hacienda, fecha de hoy, en que me transcribe la que le derijio en 1° de Junio el gobernador del Estado de Guerrero, manifestandolo los motivos por que creia necesario reservar hasta que el puerto de Acapulco fuere desocupado por el enemigo, el informe que se le pidio, respecto de hubiese exijido á unos ciudadanos Americanos que pagaren los derechos aduanales que habian satisfecho á los gefes Franceres durante su anterior permanencia en aquel puerto.

Puede V. servirse dar conocimento al Hon. Mr. Seward de esa comunicacion, en que se indican las circunstancias que hacen retardar el informe pedido.

Protesto á V. mi muy atenta consideracion,

LERDO DE TEJADA.

C. MATIAS ROMERO,
Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro de la Republica Mexicana.

WASHINGTON, *Oct.* 8 *de* 1866.

Es copia:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretario.*

No. 2.

MINISTERIO DE HACIENDA Y CREDITO PÚBLICO,
Chihuahua, Setiembre 6 *de* 1866.

El gobernador y comandante militar del Estado de Guerrero, me dice con fecha 1° de Junio último lo que copio:

"Recibido hay el oficio de V. de 11 de Abril último, en que pide á este gobierno informe lo que haya ocurrido acerca de haber determinado que pagasen algunos ciudadanos Americanos las derechos que habian satisfecho á las autoridades Francesas, durante su permanencia en Acapulco; tengo el honor de decir á V. en respuesta: que luego que el referido puerto sea desocupado por el enemigo, le remitiré el informe de que se trata, por ser inconveniente al servicio de la causa

nacional verificarlo hoy, en razon de que no habiendo seguridad de que pase la corespondencia por el espresado puerto, se espondria á caer en manos del enemigo, lo cual creo prudente evitar por tratarse en ella de un negocio en que se comprometen personas de las que residen allí."

Lo que transcribo á V. para su conocimiento.

IGLESIAS.

Al C Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores.

Es copia:

JUAN VALDEZ, *Oficial* 1°.

Washington, *Oct.* 8 *de* 1866.

Es copia:

IGNO. MARISCAL.

No. 140.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

Department of State,
Washington, October 12, 1866.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 8th instant, containing a copy of a letter from the minister of foreign affairs to you, and of one from the department of finance and public credit of Mexico to the minister for foreign affairs, in which the reason for delaying an answer to the complaint of certain citizens of the United States, that duties had been illegally collected from them at Acapulco, is stated to be the present occupation of that city by the enemies of Mexico.

It is to be regretted that a cause has intervened to prevent an explanation of this matter. Under the circumstances, however, the government of the United States is disposed to wait until the cause assigned shall have passed, in the hope that any additional delay will be avoided.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don M. Romero, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 10.

CASE OF SCHOONER SOLEDAD COS.

List of papers.

141. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero, (with one enclosure).....April 17, 1866.
142. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....April 17, 1866.

No. 141.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

Department of State,
Washington, April 17, 1866.

Sir: Referring to your communication of the 13th of October, 1865, relative to the disposition made of the schooner Soledad Cos, previously known as the Anna Taylor, and to my reply thereto of March 13, 1866, I have now the

honor to transmit for your information a copy of the letter of the honorable the Secretary of the Navy, dated the 16th instant, from which it appears that the vessel referred to was condemned as a good prize by the prize court at New York, and that the proceeds have been distributed among the captors.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you, sir, the assurances of my very distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*,
Washington, D. C.

[Enclosure.]

Mr. Welles to Mr. Seward.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, April 16, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, transmitting papers in the case of the schooner Soledad Cos, and to state, in reply to your inquiry, that the vessel referred to was condemned as a good prize by the prize court at New York, and that the proceeds have been distributed among the captors.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

No. 142.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
Washington, April 17, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of this date, in reply to mine of the 13th of October last, relating to the Mexican schooner "Soledad Cos," enclosing me a copy of a communication from the Secretary of the Navy to your department, from which it appears that the said schooner was declared to be a lawful prize by the New York prize court, and the proceeds of its sale distributed among its captors.

I send a copy of your note, with the accompanying document, to my government, this day, that, in view of them, it may determine what is proper.

I embrace the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 11.

SEAT OF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT.

List of papers.

143. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with three enclosures).....August 6, 1866.
144. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero .....August 16, 1866.

No. 143.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, August 6, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to send to you, for the information of the government of the United States, a copy of the supplement to No. 19 of the official paper of the Mexican government, published in Chihuahua the 20th of June last, containing a circular from Mr. Lerdo de Tejada, minister of foreign relations of the republic, dated the 17th of that month, communicating the intelligence that the constitutional President of the republic left the town of Paso del Norte on the 10th, with his cabinet, and arrived in Chihuahua on the 17th, where he was received by the inhabitants with demonstrations of the most sincere enthusiasm. The chief magistrate also met the same welcome in all the towns on the way.

I also enclose a note from Mr. Lerdo de Tejada, addressed to me on the 18th of June, and containing a copy of the circular.

It is seen from the above circular that the State of Chihuahua is entirely free from the presence of the French invaders; and in it the assurances are renewed that the President will continue his efforts, as he has hitherto done, to comply with his duties in supporting the cause of independence and the institutions of the republic, until it shall have attained a complete success.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

No. 271.] DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT,
Chihuahua, June 18, 1866.

I send you for your information copies of the circular I have addressed to the State governors, informing them that the President arrived in this city yesterday, where he returns to fix the seat of the national government for the time being.

I protest to you my attentive consideration.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

Citizen MATIAS ROMERO, *Envoy Extraordinary and Minister of the Mexican Republic in Washington.*

WASHINGTON, *August* 6, 1866.

A true copy:

F. D. MACIN,
Second Secretary of the Legation.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Chihuahua, Tuesday, July 17, 1866.

The citizen President of the republic left El Paso on the 10th instant, and arrived to-day in this city, where he comes to establish for the present the residence of the national government. As the State is now free from the invading foreign and traitor forces, the citizens of Chihuahua, always moved by their

patriotism, have taken still more pains than even on former occasions to make the greatest and most enthusiastic demonstration of their respect and regard for the chief magistrate of the nation. When, on other occasions, this department as announced the change of residence of the national government, caused by the exigencies of the war, it has been stated, and it is, therefore, unnecessary to repeat it now, that wherever the President may be, and under any circumstances, he will always endeavor, as he has done heretofore, to fulfil his duties in sustaining the cause of independence, and the institutions of the republic, until that cause succeeds finally, through the patriotism, courage, and constancy of the Mexican people.

LERDO DE TEJADA.

The CITIZEN GOVERNOR.

No. 144.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 16, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 6th instant, containing a copy of the supplement of No. 19 of the official paper of your government, in which the details of the arrival of the constitutional President of the republic of Mexico at Chihuahua are given at large, and to beg of you to accept my thanks for the same.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 12.

EXPORTATION OF ARMS.

List of papers.

145. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with one enclosure,).....March 24, 1866.
146. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero, (with one enclosure,).....March 24, 1866.
147. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....March 25, 1866.
148. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....April 18, 1866.

No. 145.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, March 24, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to remit to you a copy of a note which I have just received from the consul general of the Mexican republic at New York, dated yesterday, in which it is intimated to me that a person worthy of credence has given him information that there have been shipped on board the steamer "Manhattan," which should sail from New York for Vera Cruz this

day at three o'clock in the afternoon, five thousand muskets, purchased by the agents of the usurper Maximilian, and shipped, not as private property, but for account of the said usurper.

I think it my duty to beg that you will please to give the orders necessary that the export of said arms, in case the facts communicated to me turn out to be true, be not allowed.

I avail myself of the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure.—Translation.]

CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE
REPUBLIC OF MEXICO IN THE UNITED STATES,
New York, March 23, 1866.

I have the honor to bring to your knowledge that at this moment a trustworthy person has come to me, assuring me that on board the steamer Manhattan, which is to leave this port at three o'clock to-morrow, there are five thousand muskets, purchased by the agents of Maximilian, in violation of the laws of neutrality.

In communicating this for the purposes which may take place, I renew to you the assurance of my consideration.

JUAN N. NAVARRO.

C. MATIAS ROMERO,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
of the Mexican Republic, Washington City, D. C.

No. 146.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, March 24, 1866.

SIR: With reference to your communication of this date requesting that the necessary orders may be given by this government to prevent the exportation of five thousand muskets "purchased by the agents of the usurper Maximilian and shipped not as private property, but for account of the said usurper," I have the honor to enclose a copy of letter of this date from the Attorney General, whose opinion I hastened to obtain. It appears therefrom that the orders suggested would be illegal.

Accept, sir, a renewed assurance of my high consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

Mr. Speed to Mr. Seward.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., March 24, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 24th March, together with a copy of a letter from Mr. Romero, the minister of the Mexican republic.

Mr. Romero says that he has been informed that agents of the "usurper Maxi-

milian" have purchased in New York five thousand muskets, and that "they are to be shipped to Vera Cruz not as private property, but for account of the said usurper." Mr. Romero asks that the shipment be not allowed. You ask my opinion whether there is any law or regulation now in force prohibiting the exportation of arms for the account of any person whatever, be his political designation real or assumed, or of any government.

This question is fully answered in my opinion delivered to you on the 23d day of last December.

The opinion of the 23d of December was given upon a complaint of Mr. Romero that General McDowell, commanding the military department of California, had prohibited the exportation of arms or munitions of war by the frontier into Mexico. That opinion is to the effect that General McDowell's order was unlawful.

I can perceive no difference in principle betwixt that case and this. So far as neutrals are concerned belligerent parties are equal.

I know of no law or regulation which forbids any person or government, whether the political designation be real or assumed, from purchasing arms from citizens of the United States and shipping them at the risk of the purchaser.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

JAMES SPEED, *Attorney General.*

The SECRETARY OF STATE.

No. 147.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, March 25, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of yesterday, informing me that "in reference to my communication of this date, requesting that the necessary orders may be given by this government to prevent the exportation of five thousand muskets purchased by agents of the usurper Maximilian, and embarked not as private property, but on account of the said usurper," you enclose me the copy of a note from the Attorney General of the United States, whose opinion you had readily asked, and from which it appears that the orders referred to would be illegal.

I also received the copy of the note of the Attorney General of the United States addressed to you yesterday, stating that the question was settled by the opinion he gave to the State Department on the 23d of December, 1865, of which you sent me a copy with your note of the 24th of that month.

The Attorney General states that that opinion was given in reply to a complaint of mine against the order issued on the 11th of October, 1865, by General McDowell, commander-in-chief of the military department of California, prohibiting the exportation of arms and munitions of war across the northwestern frontier of Mexico; that the order was then declared illegal; and adds, there is no essential difference between that case and the present, for as far as neutrals are concerned, belligerent parties must consider them as equals.

The Attorney General concludes by saying that "he is acquainted with no law or regulation that prohibits any person or government, whether the firm be real or fictitious, from buying arms from citizens of the United States and shipping them at the risk of the purchaser."

In submitting to the government of the United States for the first time the question of the legality of the exportation of articles contraband of war from this country to one of the belligerents in the present war in Mexico, you replied to

me in your note of the 24th of November, 1862, enclosing me the copy of a note from the Treasury Department to the Department of State, dated the 20th of the same month, (Executive Document No. 11, sent to the Senate of the 38th Congress, 1st session, page 19,) and extracts of authorities quoted by the Solicitor of the Treasury, from which it appears that the purchase of articles contraband of war in the United States, and their exportation for the use of belligerents, is permitted when it is done in trade by *way of merchandise* and private speculation, but not when done directly by one of the belligerents, with the declared intention to be used against the other belligerent, with whom the United States are at peace.

This is the same principle, in my judgment, that serves as a foundation for the neutrality laws of the United States, which prohibit the arming of vessels of war in the United States for belligerents, as well as the organization of hostilities against either of the belligerent parties.

Such, at least, was my understanding of the neutrality laws of this country, up to the present time, deduced from data furnished me by your department; that is, trade in articles contraband of war for the use of belligerents was lawful when carried on by merchants as a private speculation, but unlawful when done by the belligerents themselves.

For that reason I complained of General McDowell's order, supposing it prohibited all trade, both that which I considered to be lawful and what I held as unlawful, and I requested it to be revoked in regard to the first.

And for the same reason I requested in my note of yesterday that the necessary orders should be issued to prevent the clearance of the "five thousand muskets purchased and shipped in the steamer Manhattan for Vera Cruz, by the agents of the usurper Maximilian," stating I had been assured that the muskets had been shipped, "not as private property, but on account of the said usurper;" and I added, "that I desired the orders to be issued, in case the facts were as they had been represented to me."

The Attorney General says that "he knows of no law or regulation which forbids any *person* or *government*, whether the political designation be real or assumed, from purchasing arms from citizens of the United States, and shipping them at the risk of the purchaser," and this statement makes me believe that I have been mistaken in my understanding of the laws of this country, since I cannot suppose for a moment that a restrictive interpretation to the disadvantage of Mexico has been given to them, up to the present moment. In this supposition I have now to state, that I accept the interpretation the Attorney General gives to those laws, not doubting, of course, from the equity and good faith of the government of the United States, that they will be interpreted in the same manner when the Mexican government attempts to purchase and export articles contraband of war from the ports of the United States, or over its frontiers.

I do not pretend to ask that any law of this country be interpreted in favor of Mexico, to the detriment of the other belligerent (the French government,) but I think it is reasonable to ask that no interpretation be adopted by which Mexico is placed in a situation inferior to that of her enemy.

As the Attorney General seems to consider me inconsistent in asking the revocation of an order prohibiting the exportation of arms across the frontier, and a few months afterwards asking the prohibition of the shipping of arms purchased, not by way of merchandise, but by agents of the usurper Maximilian, and on his account, "provided the facts were as they had been represented to me," I take the liberty to request you, if there be no objection, to communicate to him the explanations I make in this note.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration,

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 148.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, April 18, 1866.

SIR: I have had the honor to receive your communication of the 25th ultimo, in reply to mine of the previous day, enclosing to you the opinion of the Attorney General of the United States with reference to the exportation of five thousand muskets purchased and shipped in the steamer Manhattan for Vera Cruz, by the agents of Maximilian, and which exportation you desired should be prohibited.

The opinion of the Attorney General, already communicated to you, precludes the necessity of any extended remarks on my part upon this subject, except to assure you that no law of the United States will be so interpreted as to place Mexico in a position inferior to that of her enemy.

I beg also to inform you that, in compliance with your request, a copy of your note of the 25th March has been communicated to the Attorney General.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you, sir, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

No. 13.

SOUTHERN IMMIGRATION TO MEXICO.

List of papers.

149. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with 12 enclosures).....August 3, 1866.
150. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....August 16, 1866.
151. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with 4 enclosures).....December 12, 1866
152. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....December 20, 1866.

No. 149.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, August 3, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: In confirmation of the reports I have transmitted to the Department of State of the United States, on divers occasions, relative to the efforts of the French agents in Mexico, to induce citizens of the southern part of the United States to immigrate to that country, animated by a feeling hostile to their government, I have the honor to send you this day an index of original documents containing particulars of plans for that purpose, more minute than any I have yet been able to communicate to your department.

I regret I am not at liberty to say how these documents have fallen into my hands, but I can assure you they are authentic.

I take pleasure in embracing this additional opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

Index of documents sent to the Department of State of the United States by the Mexican legation in Washington, with the note of this date, in relation to the plan of southern colonization in Mexico.

No.	Date.	Contents.
	1865.	
1	Feb. 5	Letter of Mr. Charles M. Douglas, of Charleston, South Carolina, to the minister of the so-called Mexican empire in Washington, inquiring about the pay of passage for emigrants to Mexico.
2	Nov. 1	Letter from Mr. John O. Shelby, at Cordova, to Mr. Frank Lilly, of St. Louis, Missouri, giving information for confederate emigrants to Mexico.
3	Dec. 6	Communication from Mr. M. F. Maury, called Imperial Commissioner of Colonization, to Mr. E. Farrenne, of New York, in relation to the establishment of a bureau of correspondence in the city of New York.
4	Dec. 6	A copy, in English, of the so-called colonization laws issued by the emperor Maximilian.
5	Dec. 6	An extract from the Mexican Times, of the 9th of December, 1863, containing a circular signed by Maury, and addressed to persons who wished to settle in Mexico.
	1866.	
6	Feb. 9	Letter from Mr. Benjamin Crowther to Mr. J. C. Littrell, of St. Louis, Missouri, giving information about confederate settlers in Mexico.
7	Feb. 17	Letter from Mr. Richard L. Maury, son of M. F. Maury, called Imperial Sub-commissioner of Colonization, and colonel in the late confederate army, Mr. to James M. Payne, of Nashville, State of Tennessee, enclosing the following circular:
8	Feb. 17	Circular on Mexican colonization.
9	May 3	Letter from Mr. R. L. Maury to Mr. W. C. S. Ventress, of New Orleans, informing him that his father had gone to England, and would return in October with his family; enclosing a copy of No. 8.
10	May 14	Letter from the same to Mr. Reuben Herndon, in Galveston, Texas, telling him of the inducements to emigration held out by the usurper Maximilian, and enclosing a copy of the circular No. 8.
11	June 6	The colony founded by certain confederate ex-generals near Cordova, and named Carlotta, under the sanction of Maximilian, is broken up and destroyed by the liberal inhabitants in its vicinity.
12	Dec. 16	Letter from General Sterling Price, giving an account of the colony of Carlotta, established by himself and other confederates. Reiterates his adhesion to rebeldom, and is perfectly content with his lot in Mexico.

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

WASHINGTON, *August* 3, 1866.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February* 5, 1865.

DEAR SIR: Several young men, natives of this city, are desirous of emigrating to Mexico, but are without the necessary funds to enable them to do so. A letter is published in a Columbia, S. C., paper of the 4th instant, written from the city of Mexico by Colonel Maury, late of the confederate army, in which he states that the imperial government will defray the expenses of emigrants to Mexico. Our object in addressing you is to inquire if this is a fact; and if it is, to whom we are to apply for transportation.

If necessary, all of the party can furnish you with the best testimonials as to character, &c. An early answer will be esteemed by us a great favor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. M. DOUGLAS.

The MINISTER *of the Empire of Mexico,*
Washington, D. C.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

[The envelope containing this letter was marked as follows: "Mr. Frank Lilly, St. Louis, Missouri."]

CORDOVA, MEXICO, *November* 1, 1865.

DEAR LILLY: How often have I written to you since I crossed the Rio Grande. Too often, and I would not tax you further, save I have just learned you have married my favorite of Waverly, May Hall. God knows my heart beats with joy; and why? Because I love you both, and I am made happy by knowing she has united with a man who will protect and guard her, and who numbered not among those who persecuted the South. I am here as an exile; defeated by the acts of the southern people themselves. And why? Because they loved their "niggers," their estates, more than principle. They won, didn't they? Let them reap what they deserved, *eternal disgrace.* D——n 'em, they were foolish enough to think by laying down their arms they would enjoy all the rights they once had. How is it? Your United States papers tell us their condition. Who can sympathize with them? I can't, for I know them too well. Our independence was in our own hands. We lost from the fact our people were unwilling to sacrifice money—not blood. Of the women of the South, no man dare complain, and may a just God always guard over them. They labored hard, but even their influence failed to nerve the southern army to its duty. They sacrificed all save their honor. They urged a further continuance when the cowardly *southern* had cast aside his gun and only awaited the coming of the *northern abolition fanatic* to do his bidding. And to think that was the people we border-State men were fighting for! Yes, that was the people we were fighting for. Were we not deceived? *Still we were right!* However, take away the women and children of the South, the balance might sink in a chasm of eternal *damnation* where there could be no relief. My heart is heavy at the idea of being separated from you all forever; but I am not one of those to ask forgiveness for that which I believe *to-day* is *right.* The party in power has manifested no leniency. Though not among the politicians, I am not ready to play the sycophant.

Frank, say to old George I have written to him several times; would like to hear from him. Bud I know will write to me. Tell Charley Cowan to write to me, and say further to him, in case I succeed in this country *he shall not* suffer. I will divide always with him. Please inform him where I am, and say to him to write to me and I will answer immediately. I would like George Hall to send Bud to me. I will have him taught Spanish, and he can return in two years a good Spanish scholar. Say to my Waverly friends to look for me when Napoleon jumps Uncle Sam.

There are about two hundred confederates here. We are settling on the railroad, in the finest agricultural country in the world, seventy miles from Vera Cruz. I will await to hear from you. Send this letter to George Hall. My love to May and your family.

Ever your friend, J. O. SHELBY.

Do you know where Mr. William Shelby is? When you go to Waverly tell my old friends it would console me much to hear from them. Say to Brock Fletcher I was in hopes of meeting him last fall, and he must write to me. To old man Rudd and John Hall I would say, my prayers would be offered freely if I thought the prayers of a rebel would avail the good. And where is poor Can. Kertley? Old Spencer Brown, I know the blessings of a righteous God will always rest on him. A better man, a better heart, was never created. May happiness attend him and his. Let me hear, all.

Tell Paschal to send me the Weekly Republican. I will pay.

Yours,

J. O. S.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

COLONIZATION OFFICE,
No. 13 S. Juan de Letrán, December 6, 1865.

SIR: Your letter by Mr. Arroyo was received too late to reply by the steamer of to-day.

Your suggestion as to a bureau of correspondence in New York is good, and seems to be well worthy of his majesty's consideration.

There is in the United States a lamentable state of ignorance concerning Mexico and the Mexicans, and any one who can dispel that ignorance may well be considered as having done a good work.

I enclose some decrees and other documents which you may find interesting.

Respectfully, and your obedient servant,

M. F. MAURY,
Imperial Commissioner.

E. FARRENE, *New York.*

[Enclosure No. 4.]

Decree for the establishment of civil and military colonies on the imperial Mexican railroad between Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico.

MAXIMILIAN, EMPEROR OF MEXICO.

Considering that the establishment of lines of railroad is necessarily followed by the creation of new centres of population;

Considering that in the present state of the empire it is important that these centres of population should not be very far from each other;

Considering that all commerce and industry require complete security along their lines of communication;

We have decided to decree, and do decree as follows:

ARTICLE 1. There shall be established on both sides of the railroad from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico, and at the most suitable points, which points will be designated by our minister of fomento, civil and military settlements at a distance from each other of not more than four or five leagues.

ART. 2. Each settlement shall have an extent of at least one square league, taking care that its centre half be as near as possible to the railroad station.

ART. 3. The survey, measurement, and division of these settlements shall be made by the colonial company of engineers of Guadalupe.

ART. 4. In case the lands selected as most suitable for these settlements should not be national property, but should belong to private individuals, they shall be ex-appropriated for the public use, on such condition as our minister of fomento may decide.

ART. 5. The first settlement to be established shall be between La Soledad and Puebla, and steps therefor shall be taken immediately. Then those which are to be established between La Puebla and the city of Mexico will be formed.

ART. 6. There shall be established a line of small forts or blockhouses at the most suitable points along the road, and so situated that they can communicate with each other by means of signals day and night. These forts shall be sufficiently large to contain the necessary supplies and munitions.

ART. 7. Our ministers of fomento, of war, and of hacienda are each charged with the execution of so much of this decreee as relates to his department.

Given at Chapultepec, September 5, 1865.

MAXIMILIAN.

The MINISTER OF FOMENTO.

By the emperor:

MANUEL OROZCO Y BERRA,
Sub secretary, in the absence of the Minister of Fomento.

REGULATIONS FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOMENTO FOR CARRYING OUT THE FOREGOING DECREE.

ARTICLE 1. The settlements to which the preceding decree relates shall be established near those places which this ministry will designate, having regard to the points where the railroad stations are to be, and taking into consideration those circumstances that are indispensably connected with the welfare of the settlements.

ART. 2. The engineers of Guadalupe, being divided into parties, shall proceed, as soon as the places shall be designated, thoroughly to examine, in every particular, the land as to its fitness for the said settlement, and, the selection being made, they will survey and measure a square league, or 4,338 acres, which they will divide into one hundred lots of forty acres each, numbering each one in regular order. The 338 remaining acres shall be divided into lots of 25 metres front by 50 deep, (82 by 164 feet,) upon which the settlers may build their houses, arranged in streets of sufficient breadth for free and commodious passage.

ART. 3. As soon as the engineers shall have selected the land suitable for the settlement they shall make it known to the public functionary in whose jurisdiction the land may lie, to the end that he may immediately notify the owner thereof that said land is about to be occupied for the public good, and that he may at once apply to the ministry of fomento for proper indemnification.

ART. 4. The engineers, in making the measurement referred to in article 2, shall value the land according to its quality and with regard to the prices which rule in the neighborhood in which said land may be situated, a copy of which valuation they will deliver to the proprietor of the land, so that he may ask for the proper indemnification.

ART. 5. Should the proprietor not be satisfied with the valuation made by said engineers he shall name an expert, in whom he may have confidence, who shall value the land; and should his valuation not agree with that of said engineers the highest political authority of the place in which said land may be situated shall name a third party, who shall decide the question.

ART. 6. The provisions of the preceding article shall be carried out in case the proprietor cannot agree with the department of fomento in regard to price and terms of the indemnification, which may be made either in specie, at the times which the said department may designate, or in securities on the land itself, for which the colonists, according to the number of acres allotted to each one, may be bound in five-year bonds, bearing an annual interest of six per cent.

ART. 7. In order to carry out the provisions of the preceding article, the price of each acre shall be fixed at one dollar, and it shall be optional with the settlers either to pay for their land immediately or to hold it on the above-mentioned terms.

ART. 8. The issues which may arise as to indemnification shall in nowise interfere with the settlement of the lands, which shall commence as soon as they are examined and the notice due be given to their owners.

ART. 9. The engineers shall plat each settlement, designating the hundred lots designed for cultivation, as well as those intended for building, taking care to leave in each one the necessary amount of land for streets, churches, a school, a paseo, and other public works. These plats (or maps) shall be transmitted to the ministry of fomento, so that by means of them it may make the grants that may be solicited, and issue the proper titles.

ART. 10. To the French soldiers, and also to those of the foreign regiment whose term of service may have expired, and who may wish to remain in the empire, there will be given, gratis, in said settlements, a lot for cultivation, and also one for building, provided they render that service which, for the safety of the settlements themselves, may be required by the minister of war.

ART. 11. One-half of the lots designed for cultivation, as well as those for building, shall be reserved for those Mexicans and foreigners who may desire to establish themselves upon them.

ART. 12. The ministry of war will request his excellency Marshal Bazaine to assign the engineers of Guadalupe to the execution of those labors which in these regulations are recommended to them, and it will arrange with him as to what compensation should be given them.

ART. 13. The same department will issue the necessary regulations in regard to the military service which shall be required from the settlers, as well as those relative to the construction of the blockhouses.

The MINISTER OF FOMENTO;

In his absence, the sub-secretary, MANUEL OROZCO Y BERRA.

MEXICO, *September 7*, 1865.

DECREE TO ENCOURAGE IMMIGRATION.

We, Maximilian, emperor of Mexico, in consideration of the sparseness of population in the Mexican territory in proportion to its extent, desiring to give to immigrants all possible security for property and liberty, in order that they may become good Mexicans, sincerely attached to their new country, and having heard the opinion of our board of colonization, do decree as follows:

ARTICLE 1. Mexico is open to immigration from all nations.

ART. 2. Immigration agents shall be appointed, who will be paid by the government, and whose duty it will be to protect the arrival of immigrants, and instal them on the lands assigned them, and assist them in every possible manner in establishing themselves. These agents will receive the orders of an imperial commissioner of immigration, specially appointed by us, and to whom, through our minister of improvement, (fomento,) all communications relating to immigration shall be addressed.

ART. 3. Each immigrant shall receive a duly executed title, incommutable, of his landed estate, and a certificate that it is free of mortgage.

ART. 4. Such property shall be free from taxes for the first year, and also from duties on transfers of property, but only on the first sale.

ART. 5. The immigrants may be naturalized as soon as they shall have established themselves as settlers.

ART. 6. Immigrants who may desire to bring laborers with them, or induce them to come in considerable numbers, of any race whatever, are authorized to do so, but those laborers will be subject to special protective regulations.

ART 7. The effects of immigrants, their working and brood animals, seeds, agricultural implements, machines and working tools, shall enter free of custom-house and transit duties.

ART. 8. Immigrants are exempted from military service for five years, but they will form a stationary militia, for the purpose of protecting their property and neighborhoods.

ART. 9. Liberty in the exercise of their respective forms of religious worship is secured to immigrants by the organic law of the empire.

ART. 10. Each of our ministers is charged with carrying out such parts of this decree as relate to his department.

Given at Chapultepec on the 5th day of September, 1865.

MAXIMILIAN.

The MINISTER OF IMPROVEMENT, *(Fomento.)*

By the emperor:

MANUEL OROZCO Y BERRA,

Sub-secretary (in the absence of the Minister of Improvement.)

REGULATIONS.

Under article 6 of the foregoing decree we ordain as follows :

1. Under the laws of the empire, all persons of color are free by the mere act of touching Mexican soil.

2. They may make contracts with the employer who has engaged, or may engage them, by which such employer shall bind himself to feed, clothe, and lodge them, and give them medical attendance, and also pay them a sum of money according to whatever agreements they may enter into with him; moreover, he shall deposit in the savings bank hereinafter mentioned, for the benefit of the laborer, a sum equivalent to one-fourth of his wages. The laborer shall, on his part, obligate himself to his employer to perform the labor for which he was employed, for a term of not less than five, nor more than ten years.

3. The employer shall bind himself to support the children of his laborers. In the event of the father's death, the employer will be regarded as the guardian of the children, and they will remain in his service until they become of age, on the same terms as those agreed to by their father.

4. Each laborer shall receive a book certified by the local authority, in which book a description of his person, the statement of his place of labor, and a certificate of his life and habits will be entered. In case of a change of employer the consent of the former employer shall be entered in this book.

5. In case of the death of the employer, his heirs, or whoever may acquire his estate, shall be bound to the laborer in the same manner in which such employer was; and the laborer on his part shall be bound towards such new proprietor on the same terms as in his former contract.

6. In case of desertion, the laborer, when arrested, shall be placed, without pay, upon the public works, until his employer presents himself to claim him.

7. In case of any injustice of the employer towards the laborers, he shall be brought before a magistrate.

8. Special police commissioners will see to the enforcement of these regulations, and officially prosecute all violators thereof.

9. A savings bank will be established by the government for the following objects :

10. The employers shall deposit in said bank, every month, for the benefit of the laborers, a sum equivalent to one-fourth of the wages which each is entitled to under his contract of employment.

11. The laborers can deposit, in addition, in the savings bank, in money, such sums as they may desire.

12. These deposits will bear interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum.

13. At the end of his engagement, and on presentation of his book, the laborer shall receive the entire amount of his savings.

14. If at the end of his engagement the laborer wishes to leave his money in the savings bank, he can then receive the interest accrued; or, if he wishes to leave this also, it will be added to his capital and also draw interest.

15. In case a laborer should die intestate or without heirs, his property shall pass to the treasury of the government.

Given at Chapultepec on the 5th day of September, 1865.

MAXIMILIAN.

The MINISTER OF IMPROVEMENT, *(Fomento.)*

By the emperor :

MANUEL OROZCO Y BERRA,

Sub-secretary (in the absence of the Minister of Improvement.)

REGULATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS IN FURTHERANCE OF THE "DECREE TO ENCOURAGE IMMIGRATION."

ART. 1. The lands offered for colonization are divided into three classes:

ART 2. First. Those that are of the public domain and have never been reduced to cultivation.

ART. 3. Second. Those that have been more or less improved as haciendas, the right to dispose of which the government has acquired either by purchase or otherwise.

ART. 4. Third. Private lands and haciendas, the owners of which are disposed to offer them to immigrants on liberal terms for colonization. Many haciendas that are or have been under cultivation may be bought on easy terms, and for less that one dollar per acre.

ART. 5. These private haciendas or plantations sometimes embrace several hundred square miles. Smaller sizes often afford lands and room for a settlement of a dozen or more families.

ART. 6. Immigrants are advised to establish themselves at first in settlements or communities, as well for mutual protection and assistance, as for the benefit of churches and schools, the convenience of mills, blacksmith shops, &c., &c.

ART. 7. It is the policy of the government to encourage settlement upon private as well as public lands; and the same rights, privileges and exemptions are offered to immigrants who may settle upon the former as are granted to those who settle upon the latter.

ART. 8. Lands of class first are offered in alternate sections, as donations to actual settlers, and in quantities varying from 160 acres for a single man, to 640 for the heads of families according to circumstances to be explained hereafter.

Immigration.

ART. 9. The government not only invites all well-disposed persons to come and assist in the occupation of its vacant places, but his majesty the emperor, touched by the spectacle of good men struggling with adversity in other lands, tenders hospitality and homes especially to these. Moved by the generous impulses of his nature, he offers them material assistance to enable them to reach this bountiful and beautiful land. To those of them who wish to change their skies, make Mexico their home, and identify themselves with the country, a free passage by sea for their families and effects is offered.

ART. 10. Immigrants are therefore divided into two classes, A and B. The former being of those just alluded to, who by misfortune have lost all their substance; and the latter, those who are less straightened in their means.

ART. 11. Not only a free passage by sea is offered to class A. but when they arrive in the country, a travelling allowance of ten cents the league, thence to their new homes, will be made for each member of their families, counting as members, also, their apprentices.

ART. 12. Lands of class first will be donated to these immigrants by alternate sections, viz.: 160 acres to a single man, and 320 to a man with a family, with a pre-emption right to as much more in each case.

ART. 13. Immigrants of class A, who, after arriving in the country, may prefer to settle upon haciendas or other lands, are at liberty to do so; but in that case they will be required to refund, with interest, the money that may have been advanced in assisting them to reach their new domiciles.

ART. 14. Immigrants of class B, who are those that can afford to pay their own expenses, have the whole country before them. They may establish themselves wherever they can find suitable and available lands. If they prefer the unimproved lands of the public domain, they also can have them free, in alternate sections, but only for actual settlement, at the rate of 320 acres for a single

man, and 640 to a man with a family, with a pre-emption right to as much more in each case.

ART. 15. These donations of land to persons, whether of class A or B, are made on condition and with the understanding that they shall, in good faith, proceed forthwith to occupy, subdue, and cultivate the land so donated.

ART. 16. The lands of the public haciendas will be offered at government prices, and *pro rata* according to the actual cost of purchase by the government.

ART. 17. As it regards private lands and haciendas, the field of selection is much larger. Immigrants are free to make their own bargains with proprietors, the government waiving its fees on such transactions, as per article four of the decree.

ART. 18. As it regards the public haciendas, a reservation of improved lands will be made from each to serve during the first years as a common, for the free use of the colonists. The size of this common will be determined by the number of families the lands of the hacienda may be sufficient to accommodate. It will be large enough to give them breadstuffs and vegetables at once, and until they can bring their own lands into cultivation. It will be large enough also to afford space for a village, in case the immigrants should find it desirable, as probably at first they will, to establish themselves in villages. No rent will be charged for the first years for the use of this common.

ART. 19. This reserve or common is ultimately intended for educational purposes, and, after the first years, a ground rent of ten per cent. upon the value of the land, but not of the improvements, will be required.

Agencies.

ART. 20. Agents for immigration will be stationed at convenient points abroad, for the purpose of affording information to the emigrant there, as to this country, its lands, the best way of reaching them, and upon all other subjects pertaining thereto.

ART. 21. Persons wishing to emigrate will first apply to the most convenient agent. The applicant must state his occupation, whether agricultural, mercantile, mechanical, or professional. He must also give his age, with the name, sex, and age of each member of his family, including apprentices. If he requires assistance for the journey, he must state his circumstances, and give satisfactory references as to his character and standing in the community.

Permits.

ART. 22. The permit of the immigration agent is necessary to entitle the immigrant to the privileges of the decree. Unless he bring with him such a permit into the country, he will neither be entitled to lands, to free entry at the custom-house, nor to any other privileges beyond those accorded to mere strangers.

Effects.

ART. 23. Immigrants with such permits may bring in, duty free, all their personal and household effects, their live stock, their implements of husbandry, tools, and instruments of all kinds used by them in the pursuit of their trade, art, profession, or calling. But they may not bring, without the payment of duty, any merchandise, or thing for sale, exchange, or barter.

ART. 24. Before embarking, if coming by sea, or leaving home, if coming by land, the emigrant should furnish the agent for immigration with a complete list of the persons and effects that he proposes to carry with him. These effects must be properly packed, marked, and numbered; and the contents of each package, box, or case, must be duly certified, in order that they may the more readily pass the custom-house and toll-gates.

ART. 25. Arriving in port, or crossing the boundary, an agent will be there, whose duty it is to give the immigrants such assistance, and afford them such further information, as they may require to speed them on their way.

MEXICO, *September* 27, 1865.

Approved:

MAXIMILIAN.

OFFICE OF COLONIZATION, No. 13, CALLE DE SAN JUAN DE LETRAN, *Mexico, November* 6, 1865.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

TO PERSONS WISHING TO SETTLE IN MEXICO.

The doors of the empire are wide open, and his majesty the emperor has, in a most liberal decree, invited immigration from all quarters and without distinction as to nationality.

Many people, both in the Old World and the New, having heard of this invitation, wish to change their skies, and to avail themselves of its privileges. Gentlemen representing several thousand families in Europe, and hundreds in Tennessee, Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, the Carolinas, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, in the United States, are now anxiously seeking information in regard to the country, its condition, and resources, with the view of making it their home.

Considering that almost the only source of information open to them upon this subject is to be found in anonymous contributions made for the most part to a press by no means friendly to Mexico, I deem it proper to state for the information of all those, whatever be their nationality, who desire to renounce it and come to Mexico, with the intention, in good faith, of making it their home and of planting their posterity here, that they would do well to come, for it is a land more blessed by nature in its soil and climates than any part of the United States—that great centre at present of human migration.

The earth here yields to the care of husbandry with a profusion that would seem incredible there and fabulous in Europe. In some places it crowns the labor of the husbandman regularly with two, and in others with three harvests annually; and in each one he gathers one hundred—two hundred—sometimes three hundred, and occasionally four hundred fold, and even more, according to his own skill and the kind of seed used.

Cotton and corn do well in almost all parts of the empire. But the cotton especially of Tamaulipas, Matahuala, Fresnillo, Durango, Mazatlan, and the States north, are said to be of a better staple—save sea island—than any produced in the United States. Indeed, the cotton of Yucatan is called sea island.

Under these fine climates, which give a purity and transparency to the atmosphere that make existence itself an enjoyment and invest the eye with the faculties of almost a new sense, the vegetable kingdom displays its wealth and its powers most gorgeously, and with the most marvellous vigor and concentration.

In chosen spots, and upon a single hacienda, may be seen crowded together—piled up in steppes one above another, in all the glory of the lily, and with the perfection of excellence—fruits, flowers, and productions that, in less favored climes, require for their display as many latitudes, climates, and soils as can be found in the entire breadth of plain that lies between the sources of the Mississippi and the mouths of the Amazon.

Here, besides cotton and corn, the olive and the vine, we have the finest of wheat, with pulse, and all the cereals in great perfection. Also tobacco, coffee, sugar cane, the cocoa plant, rice, indigo, cochineal, pimento, India-rubber, and

henuquin—a peculiar and valuable fibre that answers many of the purposes of both flax and hemp; and last of all, and what, moreover, no other country in the world can produce—Flora's feat and Bacchus's boast—the lordly maguey, or pulque plant of Anahuac.

I have seen some of the very best planters from Missouri, Tennessee, and the South, and I have conversed with learned men from France and other parts of Europe, all of whom happen to have travelled through the northern and most healthy parts of Mexico. The European report, on the one hand, an agricultural country superior to the best parts of France and Italy, and also of surpassing mineral wealth; while the Americans on the other, pronounce it a grazing and cattle country to which even the blue grass regions of Kentucky and Tennessee are not to be compared.

The mountains abound with minerals, the woods with game, and the forest with the finest of timber—with the most exquisite dye and ornamental woods—gums and spices, drugs and medicinal plants of rare virtues.

Generals Price and Shelby of Missouri, Governor Harris of Tennessee, and Judge Perkins of Louisiana, with a number of their friends, have gone to examine the country about Cordova.

They are delighted with it—they intend to make it their home. The railway hence to Vera Cruz passes through it. The land is superb. It is sold by the government to immigrants at one dollar the acre, to be paid for in five equal annual instalments.

Generals Hardeman and Terry, with others from Texas, are equally well pleased with Jalisco. They are negotiating for the purchase of haciendas there sufficiently large to accommodate with land a settlement to be made up of themselves, their old neighbors and friends.

The Rev. Mr. Mitchell, of Missouri, has already commenced a fine settlement on the Rio Verdi, in San Luis Potosi. He and his comrades have gone into the cultivation of cotton, corn and tobacco.

The representative of large capital, Mons. Dousdebes, has a grant for establishing a colony from France and Spain on the shores of Matamoras.

Mr. Lloyd, of England, equally well supported, has engaged to establish a number of colonists between Vera Cruz and the capital, and a ship-load of European immigrants have just arrived in Yutacan to form the nucleus of a settlement in that fine peninsula. They have been received with ovations by the good people there.

A disposition equally favorable towards immigration is manifested in various other parts of the country.

Patriotic citizens have stepped forth at the call of his majesty and offered their own private lands, many of them upon the most favorable terms for colonization.

Mr. Jimines invites five hundred European families to his estates in Durango, offering them each a house and lot, rent free, a weekly allowance of provisions without charge, and a guarantee of work at fair wages for five years. At the end of that time he further promises a gratuity of $15,000 to the community, and a present, to each family, of a yoke of oxen.

Mr. Gil, of Guadalajara, invites twenty Belgian families to his highly improved and well stocked hacienda, offering them one-half of it for cultivation on shares, he finding the stock, seed, and cattle, and the colonists the labor. He offers also flocks and herds from which to breed, on halves.

Other enlightened and liberal-minded land owners of the empire have offered their estates for colonization on terms equally liberal.

Many false impressions have taken root abroad about Mexico and the Mexicans. These operate greatly to our disadvantage, inasmuch as they are stumbling blocks in the mind of the stranger, and tend to discourage immigration.

The world knows Mexico as a country that for the last half a century has

been tossed by revolution. Many, listening to the stories of her troubles, and the tales of her calamities as told by her enemies, have come to regard the whole land as a "God-forsaken country," inhabited by a bigoted, illiberal, and inhospitable people; while, in fact, no part of the world can boast of a more refined society or a more elegant hospitality than that which is to be found in certain parts of the empire.

The Mississippi valley, even in its palmiest days, could not boast any plantation that could compare in baronial splendor, lordly magnificence, and princely hospitality with your Mexican hacienda that has escaped the ravages of war. The halls of some of them are large enough to entertain and have entertained several hundred guests for weeks at a time.

On some of these you will find well-appointed schools for the education of the children of the dependents, at the expense of the proprietor, churches built and chapels maintained from the same munificent bounty; hospitals erected for the sick, the old servants pensioned, and all the operations of the estate carried on upon a scale and with expenditures followed by remunerative revenues such as but few farmers in Virginia or France can boast of.

But all parts of the country are not so.

For more than fifty years Mexico has been constantly torn by faction or scourged by war, and she has reaped abundantly of the harvests which always spring from such seeds—forced loans and contributions upon the rich, grievous burdens upon the poor, the spirit of enterprise in many departments of the empire well nigh crushed out of the people, the industrial energies of entire regions paralyzed, and capital itself frightened off into its hiding-places.

Such a state of things, long continued, in any country, is sure to be followed by a general absenteeism from their estates of the large land owners. This is eminently the case in Mexico.

The effect of this absenteeism is expressed upon the landscape, and proclaimed by deserted mansions, neglected plantations, and other signs of ruin and decay, in tones that fall sadly upon many a heart. Many of these fine estates, with the walls of their noble old mansions still standing, are now offered for sale and settlement at prices varying from a few cents to a few dollars per acre. They are in the most choice parts of the country, and would, if restored to cultivation, embellish the land with a beautiful mosaic of the most lovely garden spots that the world ever saw.

With the immigrant coming to Mexico it is not as with the emigrant bound to the "far West" in the United States. There he goes to reclaim from the wilderness. Here he comes, for the most part, to reclaim from ruin and the ravages of war. Plantations that were once garden spots invite his coming. He may pitch his tent on the verge of highly cultivated districts from which he can draw his supplies until the bountiful earth, yielding to his own good husbandry, shall yield him of her increase. And this the soil of Mexico, under climates that have no winter, will do in two or three months.

One of the finest haciendas of the wasted districts is now on sale. It was abandoned some six or eight years ago in consequence of a revolution, the proprietor died, and it has not since been restored to cultivation. It yielded a regular annual profit of not less than $120,000. The dwelling-house alone cost $200,000. This hacienda is large enough to accommodate forty or fifty families with farms of one thousand acres each. It can now be had for less than $5 the acre, and after the first payment, on long time to suit purchasers.

Other haciendas that are open to the choice and selection of the immigrant are much larger.

Two, containing each more than 3,000 square miles, have been offered by the proprietors for colonization.

I know of no country in which the land is held by so few and in such large tracts.

This also has produced marked effects upon the nation; it appears to have deprived Mexico entirely of what other countries consider their "bone and sinew"—their noble, enterprising, energetic, hard-working middle classes.

Some political economists divide society in Mexico into but two classes—the upper and the lower—and out of a population of 8,000,000 of people, more than 7,000,000 are said to belong to the latter.

The statesmen of the country, with the emperor in their lead, desire to heal the breach rapidly. For this purpose, foreign labor, capital, and skill have been invited to our shores. Many good men of the country look upon immigration, on a large scale, as the readiest and best means of restoring the equilibrium of the classes, and of giving to this country and its institutions that stability and force which are so essential to the full development of its vast powers, capabilities, and resources.

Hence the encouragement that is now offered to immigrants.

This country is now in a better state to receive immigrants than it has been for many years.

The empire is daily gaining ground, strength, and support, and the armed organization against it broken up into factions, its head and leader, Ex-President Juarez, having left the country.

But now, with the dawn of a happy era of peace at last before her, Mexico, after half a century of continued change and revolution, finds herself in an exhausted state, and the immigrants who wish to cast their lots with her auspicious future must bring with them something more than brawny arms and stout hearts. They must not forget those appliances of industry, those labor-saving machines and improved modes of husbandry which scientific skill and mechanical ingenuity, under the blessings of stable government and long-continued peace, have, in other parts of the world, brought to such perfection.

There is room, with encouraging prospects, for mechanics and artisans of all sorts, as well as for agricultural labor and scientific skill. Roads are to be repaired and made, bridges restored, mills—grist and saw—to be erected, dwelling-houses to be repaired or built; machine shops, and all those establishments which are so essential in the agricultural economy of other countries, will also be extensively required.

Immigrants who come to Mexico, from whatever country, will be warmly welcomed in many parts. They will meet with no open hostility anywhere, except from the hands of the lawless.

To resist them, and to have the full benefit of all those conveniences—such as mills and other establishments just alluded to, and which every well-ordered agricultural community requires—it is desirable that the immigrants should come in bodies and form settlements of their own.

Looking to this, the decree of September 5 invests them with a semi-military organization, and they are expected to be able to defend their settlements against robbers, who, however, rarely attack where resistance is expected.

Protestants will be drawn into communities also for the sake of schools and churches. Moreover, public interests require that each settlement should be large enough fairly to develop the whole system of domestic, social, and agricultural economy of the country whence the settlers came.

For this purpose, each settlement should be large enough to support saw and grist mills, tanyards, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, and the various other artisans and machinists, who, in the pursuit of their calling, contribute to the requirements of modern agriculture, with all of its improvements.

There is still another reason why immigrants from all except Spanish countries should form themselves into settlements of their own, and that reason is one of language. A farmer coming to Mexico, ignorant of the language, ignorant of the customs of the country, and of the rate of wages, and settling down among neighbors all speaking in—to him—an unknown tongue, would find himself

surrounded by embarrassments, none of which would exist in a settlement made up of his old neighbors, kinsmen, and friends.

It would be well, therefore, for each colony to bring with it a large portion of its own labor.

The lands of Mexico have never been surveyed, nor has there been, until now, a land office.

The consequence is that the government cannot tell which lands are public and which private, and though the chief of the land office is vigorously at work organizing surveying parties, and sending them forth into the field, it is found that lands sufficient to receive the coming tide of immigration cannot be surveyed, mapped, and brought into market for some time yet. Therefore, it is recommended to those, both in Europe and the United States, who desire to come now to Mexico, to form themselves into companies, consisting of not less than twenty-five families each. Then, while those at home are making their preparations, let their pioneers come to Mexico for the purpose of purchasing a hacienda or other lands, and of making ready to receive the rest.

To those who will thus come now, with their families, and form settlements sufficient to call into play all the industrial appliances, consisting of machinery, shops, and implements connected with agriculture in its most improved state, and calculated to serve as so many centres of agricultural improvement in the country, special encouragement is held out.

They are invited to send forward their agents, who will receive all the information that the office of colonization can give, and every facility that it can throw in their way, as to the most desirable parts of the country in which to settle—the choicest localities, and the cheapest and best lands, &c.

Having made their own selections, the government will then, in case they require it, lend them pecuniary assistance sufficient to enable them to establish themselves in their new homes, and get fairly under way.

M. F. MAURY, *Imperial Commissioner.*

OFFICE OF COLONIZATION,
No. 13 *Calle San Juan Letran, Mexico, November* 18, 1865.

[Enclosure No. 6.]

CITY OF MEXICO, *February* 9, 1866.

MY DEAR FRIEND: Presuming a letter from a live rebel that never surrendered, and who preferred exile to degradation, regardless of the acts of other rebels to the contrary, it is with pride and pleasure I take this means of addressing you, and acknowledging my deep sense of gratitude for acts of personal kindness received at your hands by my wife and children while I served in the army of the Confederate States of America, and which will doubtless in the measure of time assume her separate existence among the nations of the earth. I can only give you a very brief outline of family incidents since my wife parted with you at St. Louis on the 3d March, 1865, when she received Special Order No. 58, paragraph 10, and which I shall very cheerfully bequeath as a legacy to my children and impress upon their minds the duty they owe to God and the land that gave them birth to resent it to the full extent of extermination of the government from whose authority the order emanated. I met my wife and children at Camden, Arkansas, on the 26th March; on the 2d April I left Camden and conveyed them through the worst roads and weather you ever saw, to Fulton; thence to Clarksville, Texas; thence to Paris, where I arrived on the 17th April, and was there detained until the 2d May, waiting to obtain conveyance for my family to leave them with my brother-in-law at San Antonio, which place I did not reach until the 26th May, intending to return to my command; but on reaching that place, having sufficient evidence that the army had dis-

banded, and having witnessed and known so much diabolical cruelty and inhumanity of the federal government, I resolved to continue my journey to this country and abandon the God-forsaken land of the so-called United States—as you are well aware that the word united is only a name and not a fact. I left San Antonio with my family, and arrived at Monterey on the 21st June, where I went into the commission business and remained there until the 19th November, when I left, and arrived with my family at the city of Mexico on the 19th January, 1866, and unless I change my mind shall proceed to Cordova, some sixty-five miles from Vera Cruz, where I shall locate and cultivate coffee, tobacco, &c. It is estimated from the experience of others that five years, with the cultivation of about eighty to one hundred acres in coffee, will make any man with ordinary skill and attention become immensely wealthy. There is also about 300 different varieties of tropical fruits, and never without vegetables at any season of the year. The climate is delightful, and from a strange fact, that in the space of ten leagues you can, by selection of a slope of table-lands, realize any climate you may desire. The climate of this city, is from its great height, dry and salubrious, but very light; it is quite warm all through December, January, and February—Missouri fall heat; since 21st May up to present time, I have experienced less inconvenience from heat than I have in Missouri in the months of July and August. House rent in this city is rather high; I pay $25 per month for six rooms, and every house convenience, water-closet, &c. We have at this time green peas, tomatoes, cabbage, turnips, beets, carrots, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, turkeys, eggs, chickens, fresh beef, pork, bananas, oranges, lemons, and one hundred other different varieties of fruits and vegetables, fresh and in abundance at this time, and cheap. At first, on account of the language, my wife thought she never would like to live in the country, but necessity soon forces a person to learn to speak it. We have a female servaut, Mexican, we pay five dollars per month. On the 21st January, at 11.40 a. m., my wife was safely delivered of a fine, healthy, rebel child, a little girl, whom we have named Carlotta, after the empress of Mexico, and deservedly so, because she has been and still is the true friend of true confederates. Both my wife, Susey, Bartlett and Carlotta, are all well and in fine health. Bartlett has grown to be a very fine boy, and has learned to speak Spanish better than his mother or myself. There appears to be very little known of this country in the United States, or other countries—concerning its interior mineral and agricultural wealth; it is far beyond anything I ever before conceived of, and I must say I have been very agreeably disappointed. I was sorry to see and witness so many confederates come to Mexico with wrong and improper motives; some imagined that they would be forthwith installed into some fat office, like Commodore Maury, and because they were not, and not being disposed to adapt themselves to temporary inconvenience, would not labor, and to their shame went back to the dis-United States, like a dog returning to his vomit; whereas had they been patient, and not tried to force things whether or no, they would, by settling in colonies of twenty-five and fifty families, as is now the case at Cordova, Rio Verde, and other places—they would all have done well and been of mutual assistance to each other. The only temptation that I or any of my family could have to return to the States would be on the occasion of a war with any other power on earth, and that of the federal government, in which event you may expect to see me in the service of that army, whatever army it may be.

At present I know of no country that can offer as many inducements to intelligent agricultural, mechanical, or other men of sound, sober, practical business capacities, as Mexico, notwithstanding all that random writers have said to the contrary; but I must be candid with you, that Englishmen and Americans must settle in colonies of from fifteen to one hundred families, otherwise, by scattering, isolated few by themselves, they actually become lost for any good pur-

pose to themselves or their race, and every colony, however small, must have within themselves their proper quota of the common trades of life, particularly blacksmiths, wagon makers, carpenters, &c. In point of climate and natural good health, I prefer that of Mexico to any part of the States. There are a great many Americans and English in business in this city, and they have all grown rich.

I can, upon the information I have derived from my wife, on the subject of one article of trade, soap and its manufacture here, according to the patent mode which she says was offered to you at St. Louis for county rights in Missouri for sale, guarantee to you an independent fortune in eighteen months, if you will purchase the right from the patentee for all of Mexico; and, if you desire, I will engage in the business with you to our mutual interests and profit. I feel deeply and personally interested in this matter, and wish to hear from you immediately on the subject. Common brown soap, but good, sells here retail at 18¾ cents per pound. You had better come at once to Vera Cruz as an immigrant, and bring the necessary machinery to make the soap with you, and it will be admitted free of duty. Let me hear from you at once, or if you will not come, procure the the agency of the patentee for the whole of Mexico for me, and I will put it through, stating rate per cent., commission, &c.

The railroad from Vera Cruz to this city will be completed in three months; telegraph is now in working order all through; common castings sell here at 37½ per pound.

With kind regards and best wishes of my wife, self, and little ones, I am your friend, faithfully,

BENJ. CROWTHER.

Mr. J. CALVIN LITTRELL.

P. S.—I wish you to write to old man William Cogswell, sr., to send you *my box of books*, in his care, and I shall be under many obligations to you to forward the same to me, care of Snowden R. Andrews, at Vera Cruz; or if you will come, as I wish you to do, bring it with you. Give our best regards to all our friends. We will have a colony at Cordova of about one hundred families this spring and they are all *good rebs*. B. C.

Direct your letters to me as follows: Benj. Crowther, en cargo de los sures, F. A. Lohse & Sons, No. 2 calle del Espiritu de Santo, ciudad de Mexico.

[The envelope was marked as follows: J. Calvin Littrell, box 275, St. Louis, Mo., or care of Wm. H. Stephens, esq., Fourth street, St. Louis, Mo.]

[Enclosure No. 7.]

OFFICE COLONIZATION, 13 SAN JUAN DE LETRAN,
Mexico, February 17, 1866.

SIR: In reply to yours of the 24th December last, I beg leave to forward you enclosed some information relative to Mexican immigration and Mexico.

As yet no funds have been placed at the disposal of this office for defraying the expenses of immigrants here. The policy of your government in forbidding Mexican colonization agents in the United States has defeated this generous intention of my emperor.

Very truly,

RICHARD L. MAURY,
Sub-Commissioner

JAMES M. PAYNE,
Nashville, Tennessee.

[For enclosure No. 8 see enclosures No. 9 to No. 15.]

[Enclosure No. 9.]

MEXICO, *March* 3, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: My father has just sailed for England for the purpose of returning with his family to Mexico after the rainy season, in October next. I will forward your letter just received, of the 21st of January, to him there. He will be delighted to hear from you, for your name is often on his lips. His address is "Care of Rev. F. W. Tremlett, the Parsonage, Belsize Square, London, N. W."

I enclose you a circular letter of his, which I am sure you will read with interest. It was addressed to the Rev. Dr. Hawkes, of New York, in answer to one from him, expressing a desire to immigrate, and to learn something of the country of Mexico before leaving his home in New York.

I hope that you will consider that both myself and my office are entirely at your service to render you any aid, assistance, or information that we can, or that you may desire.

I hope in a few months to have published a little work on Mexico, which, in view of the accuracy of the information which it will contain, I think will be very well received by those of the South whose attention has been attracted towards Mexico.

Most sincerely and truly,

RICHARD L. MAURY,
Sub-Commissioner of Colonization, late Colonel C. S. Army.

W. C. S. VENTRESS, *New Orleans.*

[Enclosure No. 10.]

OFFICE COLONIZATION, 13 SAN JUAN DE LETRAN,
Mexico, March 14, 1866.

SIR: Your letter of January 30 has just been received. You may rely upon the enclosed circular as accurate.

The inducements offered to immigrants by imperial decree are exemption from taxation, military conscription for a term of years, from the payment of all or any import dues on personal effects or farming utensils, religious liberty, and a grant of land of 640 acres to married men or 320 to single, either gratis or at low rates and accommodating terms.

Very truly,

RICHARD L. MAURY,
Sub-Commissioner, late Colonel C. S. Army.

REUBEN HERNDON, *Galveston, Texas.*

[Enclosure No. 11.—From the New York Tribune, June 22, 1866.]

VERA CRUZ, *June* 6, 1866.

The hopes the confederate emigrants to Mexico had entertained of an extensive settlement in that country under the paternal hand of a much admired and praised monarch, as they themselves designated Maximilian, are at an end. The Cordova colony, founded by General Price and Judge Harris, has broken up. The far-famed city of Carlotta, laid out by the former, and consisting of a house, a barn, and a stable, has been destroyed. The fields of coffee, by means of which Judge Perkins, of Louisiana, expected to retrieve his lost fortunes,

have been ravaged; the pineapple plants, out of which General Price was to distil a most delicious fourth-proof brandy, have been uprooted and trampled upon by the hoofs of the guerilleros' mustangs; the palm-roofed shanties under the shelter of which about one hundred southern emigrants have sought a refuge have been burned to the ground, and their inmates, homeless and penniless, compelled to fly to the city of Cordova for protection, are now seriously contemplating the abandonment of Mexico forever, and the going back to the United States.

The history of the misfortunes of the Cordova colony is short but suggestive. In the month of January last several confederate settlers had entered into an agreement with a number of Indians, or peons, for a certain stated amount of labor, which the latter were bound to perform. It seems, however, that after three months the Indians, becoming disgusted with their bargain, if not with their employers, refused to work any longer. This, of course, was most injurious to the interests of the confederate planters. As it was impossible for them to find laborers anywhere else, the withdrawal of their field hands destroyed all hopes of a crop, and virtually placed them in a worse condition than they occupied at the outset. In this predicament they decided that the only way to save themselves from utter ruin was to compel these Indian laborers to fulfil their contracts, and to use violence in case of resistance. They went to a hamlet a few miles from Carlotta city, and there tried to persuade the Indians to come back to the field and resume their labors. But their efforts were of no avail; the Indians obstinately declined going. Thereupon the confederates seized the Indians, tied their hands with ropes, and driving them like a herd of cattle back to their fields, forced them by threats and blows to fulfil their contracts.

The liberals, who are encamped all around Cordova, at a distance of three to five miles, were no sooner apprised of this fact than they met, to the number of about a thousand, and decided to revenge with fire and sword the insult upon their countrymen. They came by night upon the city of Carlotta and the farms surrounding it, entered the houses of the settlers, whom they surprised, carried twenty-eight of them away as hostages, dispersed the rest, burned several houses and shanties, and robbed all they could rob. The liberals spared, however, the homes of General Price, Judge Harris, Perkins, and others, who had shown themselves opposed to all violence against the natives of the country. These gentlemen, I understand, are actually at Cordova with their families, under protection of the military authorities; they have abandoned all notion of settling in Mexico and are making preparations for returning to the United States.

This retaliation of the Mexican liberals upon the confederates occurred at about eighteen miles from Cordova, a city having an imperial garrison and serving as a depot to the railroad company. If the liberals have such power in a place which is under the entire control of the military, I leave you to imagine what their influence must be in the frontier States, remote from all imperialist protection, and where Maximilian's means of action are essentially limited. Nor am I astonished to learn of the horrible condition of that State, and particularly of Sonora, Michoacan, Coahuila, and others, now the theatre of the most savage and heart-rending cruelties.

THE CONFEDERATE COLONY AT CORDOVA.

[From the Mexican Times, June 16.]

The colony at Cordova has suffered a serious interruption at the hands of liberals or robbers, it is not known which, but his excellency Marshal Bazaine has given such orders as will, it is believed, secure the settlers in future against similar attacks. We are glad to learn that the colonists themselves have also

formed an organization for self-defence, and while, from the limited number who are thus organized, the protection afforded will not be as perfect as could be wished, yet, with the assistance of the military, it is thought that it will be effective for the future.

We are glad to learn from those of our countrymen who have lately had business to transact with his excellency Sr. Somera, minister of fomento, in relation to immigration, that there is as much activity in the acquisition and surveys of lands for colonization as have ever been known on the part of the government; that the policy of encouraging immigration is earnestly adhered to, and that many and very desirable lands have recently been obtained for that purpose. Messrs. Robert Laurence, Hardeman and McCausland have been employed to make extensive surveys, and already there are several efficient parties in the field engaged in this operation.

[Enclosure No. 12.—From the Missouri Republican.]

CORDOVA, MEXICO, *Saturday, December* 16, 1865.

MY DEAR SIR: Your kind and much esteemed favor of the 19th ultimo was handed me a few days since, and I now proceed to answer it, in camp and without shelter, but upon my own six hundred and forty acres, near the town of Cordova and the railroad leading from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico. The lands in this vicinity are not surpassed by any of the plate lands in fertility of soil and in the finest climate I ever saw, the thermometer never above ninety degrees or below seventy, and in full view of mountains covered with perpetual snow. I am gratified to be able to say that as soon as the survey was completed the thirty confederates now here unanimously tendered me the choice of sections. I think I have made a judicious selection. I have donated to the colonists twenty-four acres for a town site on a rushing stream of water and by a large spring of excellent water. We have laid off the ground into town lots and named it Carlotta, after the Empress, and we are all now upon our lots clearing away the brush to erect our houses. I wrote my family to-day to join me here as soon as they can raise the means to do so. I cannot think of returning to the States and be required to ask pardon for the action I took in the struggle. I am entirely satisfied with the part I took. I would do the same again under similar circumstances. I did all that my talents enabled me to do to avert the calamity of war. I was not a secessionist, but when the struggle came I did not hesitate to take the side of the South.

I pray God that my fears for the future of the South may never be realized; but when the right is given to the negro to bring suit, testify before courts, and vote in elections, you all had better be in Mexico.

There is no doubt of the stability of this government; French troops are arriving every week, and the marauding bands that have infested the country for ages past are fast being exterminated; no quarters are given.

When the character of our lands is well understood, immigration will be a fixed fact under any circumstances, and the finest lands that can now be procured at low rates will command large prices. I have never known the cultivation of lands to yield such large profits. My neighbor, Mr. Fink, (a man of science,) cultivates eighty (80) acres in coffee with ten hands, and sold his last year's crop for $16,000. His coffee-field, shaded with every variety of fruit trees, in full bearing, and the walks fringed with the pineapple, is the most beautiful sight I have ever seen.

I am, dear sir, your friend, truly,

STERLING PRICE.

No. 150.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 16, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 3d instant, containing information with regard to the emigration of certain citizens of the United States for Mexico, for which be pleased to receive my thanks.

I avail myself of the present occasion to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 151.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, December 12, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: Continuing the transmission which I have made to your department of the documents which have relation to the project of establishing colonies in Mexico of discontented citizens of the southern portion of the United States, engaged in sustaining the usurpation of the Austrian ex-archduke, Don Fernando Maximilian, I have now the honor to remit to you two letters, with their annexes, addressed by Richard L. Maury, called sub-commissioner of colonization in Mexico, and ex-colonel in the army of the confederate States, to M. M. Pettis, of Montgomery, Alabama, and to O. G. O'Neal, of Columbus, Georgia, and dated the 5th and 10th of April of the current year.

I gladly avail of this occasion, Mr. Secretary, to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. W. H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No 1.]

OFFICE OF COLONIZATION, 13 SAN JUAN DE LETRAN,
Mexico, April 5, 1866.

SIR: Your letter of February 12 has just been received.

The agents of this office in the south have all been arrested, and required to give up their appointment. Therefore, no transportation can be furnished you.

The government only offers lands to settlers. Many private individuals and companies, however, offer aid of every sort during the first few years. Mr. Forns you will find exceedingly kindly disposed towards those who come to his land. (See enclosed circular.)

You will do most wisely to bring a few negro laborers with you. They must be regularly apprenticed to you, for not less than five nor more than ten years, and the government will compel them to observe their indentures if they should be disposed to run away before their time is out.

As a No. 1 surveyor, you would have very good chances for employment here. Still a place could not be kept for you, because as the demand occurs it must be supplied at once. Still, places are every day opening up for those who are on the spot.

Respectfully,

RICHARD L. MAURY,
Sub-Commissioner, late Colonel C. S. Army.

M. M. PETTIS, *Montgomery, Alabama.*

[Enclosure No. 2.]

LATEST FROM MEXICO.

Arrival of Missourians.—Maximilian firmly seated.—Ex-Governor Allen publishing a paper in Mexico.—The emigrants and their colony.—Liberal grants of land.—The grandson of Iturbide heir to the throne.—List of the exiles.

We had a call last night from Messrs. R. H. Thomas and J. M. Lane, of Missouri, who were members of the body-guard of Major General Sterling Price, late Confederate States army, and accompanied him to the city of Mexico. They determined, after so doing, to return to their homes, and started September 18, going by stage to Paso del Macho, and thence by rail to Vera Cruz, arriving here yesterday on a sailing vessel.

These gentlemen report the country somewhat disturbed by guerillas, but very firmly in the possession of the emperor Maximilian, whom they regard as highly capable of making Mexico as prosperous as any other ruler can.

These gentlemen did us the favor to bring us the first number of the Mexican Times, dated September 16, which they were instructed by the distinguished editor and proprietor, Governor Henry W. Allen, to bring to us, and for which we thank both him and them. The agents for the Times in this city are Messrs. Nugent & Co. Our visitors also inform us that the Americans who had emigrated to Mexico are about to settle at Cordova, about half way between the cities of Mexico and Vera Cruz, in a most delightful region, very rich and healthy, where tropical fruits grow wild, and where the best coffee they ever drank is produced. It has a sufficient market in the country, and is never carried out of it. Grants are made to families of 640 acres, and 320 to single men. Ex-Governor Allen, our informants tell us, went with General Price, General Magruder, Commodore Maury, and other American emigrants, to superintend the laying out of the lands for these colonists.

We find in the Times the important statement that on the day of its issue, the independence day of Mexico, their majesties were to adopt as their successor to the throne of the Mexican empire, Augustin Iturbide, two years of age, grandson of the lamented emperor of that name, and the son of an American mother. Nothing could be better calculated to insure the emperor the love and confidence of the people of Mexico.

We append an extract from the prospectus of the Times, to show what is its object. From this we must doubt much that Governor Allen at present thinks of returning to this State. He says:

"The Times will advocate—

"1. Immigration and progress—giving full and accurate descriptions of the rich lands and their products, the valuable mines and minerals and the various climates of Mexico.

"2. Railroads and manufactories, and internal improvements of every kind.

"3. Special attention will be given to arts and sciences, to polite literature, and to the general news of the day, foreign and domestic."

The following is a list which the Times gives of "emigrants of the United States of America and of strangers" visiting Mexico:

Sterling Price, Missouri; J. B. Magruder, Virginia; Isham G. Harris, Tennessee; E. Clark, Texas; Trusten Polk, Jo. O. Shelby, Missouri; H. W. Allen, H. Dennis, W. A. Broadwell, Louisiana; M. F. Maury, Virginia; J. Perkins, Louisiana; Heber Price, H. M. Duncan, J. P. Tucker, Missouri; W. P. Hardeman, H. P. Bee, M. W. Sims, Texas; Geo. Young, R. J. Laurence, C. G Jones, J. N. Edwards, Missouri; D. C. Cage, Louisiana; W. Yowell, George Hall, F. M. Kephart, R. A. Collins, Y. H. Blackwell, J. Terry, J. Moreland, T. Boswell, W. J. McArthur, J. C. Wood, E. Wood, M. M. Langhorne, F. T. Mitchell and family, Missouri; Mr. Wood and wife, Missouri; D. W. Bouldin, Missouri; S. Hunkel, Missouri; J. Beard, Missouri; W. Skidmore, Missouri; H. Thomas, Missouri; C. M. Wilcox, Tennessee; R. Joseph, Missouri; T. Weston, Louisiana; H. B. Acton, Missouri; J. Donahoe, California; I. Reed, Virginia; T. J. Divine, Texas; J. Brown, North Carolina; Señor Conrow, Missouri; Señor O'Bannon, South Carolina; Señor Kimmel, Missouri; D. Leadbetter, Alabama; Señor Jones, Texas; Señor Thompson, H. T. Childs and family, Missouri; M. L. Kritser, Missouri; J. S. Kritser, Missouri; T. Whalen, California; J. M. Meador, T. Collins, W. Fell, B. F. Jones, J. B. Kirtley, J. B. Conner, G. M. Winship, J. Ward, Missouri; E. Lilly, N. T. Fincher, Texas; H. McNamee, California; R. J. Flynn, R. H. S. Thompson, Louisiana; Señor Bartlett, Mississippi; G. Mitchell, J. N. Lane, B. H. Lyon, Kentucky; J. J. Gaenslen, Virginia; T. C. Hindman, Arkansas; J. H. Brown and family, J. Brown, P. M. Brown, H. C. Cook, Texas; Richard Taylor, Kentucky; O. M. Watkins, Louisiana; T. C. Reynolds, Missouri; A. Ridley, California; E. Kirby Smith, Florida; J. N. Martin, J. G. Walker, Missouri; T. O. Moore, Louisiana; W. Preston, Señor Roberts, Texas; Alfred Mordecai, North Carolina.

Of the above, Judge Divine, of Texas, has returned to San Antonio, where he resided as Confederate States district judge, during the war. Señor Roberts is, we presume, Judge Roberts, formerly of the State supreme court of Texas, and colonel late Confederate States army; W. Preston, of Kentucky, was United States minister to Spain, and a general in the late Confederate States army. J. G. Walker, of Missouri, captain in the United States mounted rifles, and major general Confederate States army, commanding district of Texas just before the surrender of the trans-Mississippi department, is now in England, we understand, and desirous of coming back. A. Ridley came from California with General Sidney Johnston; was a major of a Texas cavalry regiment; was captured in the attack on Donaldsonville by Tom Greene's men, in 1863, and was kept a prisoner on Johnson's island, returning to Texas just before its surrender. T. C. Reynolds was the confederate governor of Missouri. O. M. Watkins, of Louisiana, was formerly of Alabama, and served with Magruder in a Louisiana regiment on the peninsula, and then on his staff in Texas. General T. C. Hindman was understood, several months before Lee's surrender—on his arrival at Shreveport from Georgia, after Hood's defeat—to have given up the confederate cause as hopeless. He went from San Antonio to Shreveport and thence to Monterey. J. J. Gaenslen was a surgeon in the old army, and also in the confederate service, with Magruder, and then with Slaughter, on the Rio Grande. D. Leadbetter was an officer of the old army, we believe, and a general in the Confederate States service. He was under Kirby Smith, in Texas, but a short time before the latter's surrender. Señor O'Bannon, of South Carolina, was well known and very popular in the old army. He served gallantly with the Palmetto regiment in the Mexican war, and was given a position as an officer in the regular infantry at the close of the war. He was Bragg's chief quartermaster in his Kentucky campaign, and as Kirby Smith's chief quartermaster was noted for his energy and integrity. He once kicked a man down stairs in his office, at Shreveport, who offered him a big bribe. We heard an old friend

of his say the other day, that O'Bannon went to Mexico as poor as a church mouse. C. M. Wilcox was in the old army, and a well known general in Lee's army. Sterling Price, Maury, Perkins, of Louisiana, Magruder, I. G. Harris, Edward Clark, of Texas, Shelby, of Missouri, Moore and Allen, of Louisiana, are too well known to need any showing of who they are. Generals W. P. Hardeman and Ham. Bee are old Texas names—the former one of the few left of the real Texas rangers of the days of Jack Hays and Gillespie.

We hope yet to see all these gentlemen returning to their former homes and country. Those who stood so well the brunt of battle and revolution for what they deemed a right principle, owe it to their native land to labor as persistently in restoring peace and prosperity to it, after the struggle is over. Could they follow a nobler example than Lee and Johnston?

[Enclosure No. 3.]

OFFICE OF COLONIZATION, MEXICO,
February 7, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: I have received your letter, inquiring, like many others, about Mexico, with the view of making it their home.

You know its geographical features, and the fame of its mineral wealth. Its soil is of unsurpassed fertility, and its climate, after you begin to ascend the table-land, is as delicious and healthful as the heart of man can desire.

The emperor is ruling wisely and mildly. Their majesties are beloved by the imperialists and respected by all. They move as freely among the people as the President of the United States ever did in days of yore.

The empire is continually gaining ground. Enterprise is abroad; many works of internal improvement are already under way and about to be commenced. Capital is leaving its hiding-places, and the columns of the newspaper press are daily, and for months have been, filled with the names of liberals who, looking upon the empire as a success, and their cause as a failure, have laid down their arms, and are giving in their adhesion.

Property and life are daily becoming more secure. As an illustration, the doors of the house in which I live are without locks; nor do I ever take care even to shut any of them before I go to bed. True there is a porter below, but the building is an old convent, inhabited and frequented by hundreds of people, who are not barred from each other by any fastenings.

The impressions abroad about Mexico are very erroneous. With regard to the inquiries in behalf of our friends who desire to come to this lovely land, I have to say they can find desirable locations in any climate they please, and suitable for the cultivation of any staple they prefer, or the raising of any kind of stock.

As to the most profitable branch of agricultural industry, that varies with the locality, the variation depending as well upon the convenience and circumstances of the market as upon geographical conditions. Owing to the want of roads, navigable rivers, and canals, internal transportation is tedious and expensive, and exportation difficult. Hence, in one part of the empire, the spectacle has not been unfrequently presented of breadstuffs at famine prices, while in a neighboring department they were wasting for the want of consumers.

The most desirable location, therefore, for emigrants who are "well to do," (and this is the class that must lead the way,) are on what may be called the intertropical belt of Mexico, within which Cordova and Jalapa are situated. This is a sort of steppe or slope, which rises from the low lands of the coast to the various climates which are to be found in all intertropical latitudes between the heights of from 2,000 to 4,000 feet above the sea. Within this range the climates are those of perpetual summer; they are healthy and delightful.

These steppes encircle the empire on the east, south, and west. They overlook the valley of the Coatzacoalcos and the Gulf of Mexico on one side, and the Pacific ocean on the other, and abound in garden spots as beautiful as Eden itself, and as sinful too Cordova and Jalapa are such places; they are in sight of the sea. The farmer there, and at many other places, may reap from the same field two or three crops annually, with an increase of three or four hundred fold upon the seed sown.

In the course of the present year a railway is to be completed from each of these points to Vera Cruz, which will bring them fairly within the domains of foreign commerce.

Corn, cotton, coffee, sugar, and tobacco all do well here, but as a rule I consider coffee, cotton, and tobacco the most profitable staples of cultivation, because they can best bear transportation and stand competition in foreign markets.

Formerly, and before the country began to be tossed and vexed by revolution, lands in the neighborhood of these two cities were valued at from $75 to $100 per acre.

Many of these splendid haciendas—some of them large enough to accommodate with elegant farms ten times fifty families—were broken up during the revolutions, and their owners compelled to seek safety elsewhere.

They have fallen into ruin and decay through absenteeism; and now that order is restored, the empire gaining ground, and the internal improvements encouraged by the wise policy of the emperor, these lands are coming into demand again. But present owners find themselves too poor to repair and bring them under cultivation again. They are for sale, and may be bought at from two dollars to three dollars per acre.

These abandoned Haciendas (and they are to be found in all parts of the empire) are the places for your thrifty American farmers to establish themselves. Let them, therefore, send out their head men to select a place for the whole settlement, to be followed immediately by their young men, to sow and plant and build and repair, and make ready for the old men, the women, and the children, and others to follow by the time the crops are ready.

They will find it, at first, best to establish themselves in villages, as well for mutual convenience as for protection against the bands of lawless marauders, who are ever ready to pounce upon the solitary farmer. Immigrants should bring with them such mechanics as are required to satisfy their own wants and necessities. Tell those who come to count upon all the assistance, every facility, and the best information that it is in my power to afford, or within the province of this office to give.

In the northern departments the vine flourishes well and the wine is excellent. On the slopes next the sea cochineal and indigo are cultivated; drugs and gums and spices collected. The most profitable stock raising are mules, horses, and goats. There is room for much improvement in the breed of horses, cattle, and sheep.

The immigrant is allowed free exercise of religious worship. It is guaranteed to him both by an ordinance of the empire and a dispensation of the Pope. He is also entitled, on entering the country, to a free duty permit for all of his cattle and effects, and exemption from all taxation for one year, and from military conscription for five years. He is allowed to bring in his arms also, and, with his neighbors, to form a sedentary militia for mutual defence against robbers, who are daily becoming less bold. But he may not bring in anything for sale, exchange, or barter without the payment of full duties.

In the rural districts the Indians generally are honest; indeed, in some parts of the country theft among them is unknown. They are a gentle and docile race. Simple in their habits, they are superstitious, entering zealously into all the festivities and ceremonies of the church. They seem not to care to earn more than a dollar or two a week, and when they have done this, whether by two or

three days of labor, they generally stop work and frolic till their money is gone, when they are ready to earn, by labor in the field, the next instalment. The Sabbath is not much observed by them or the Mexicans generally, except as a day of parade and pleasure. As a rule the wages of farm hands are paid weekly in cash, and at the rate generally of from twenty-five to fifty cents a day, the laborer finding himself.

Silver is the principal circulating medium. There are also gold and copper coins, but no bank notes.

The implements of husbandry are generally rude, and agriculture by no means in a high state of improvement. Nevertheless the Indians and the mixed classes, of whom there are about seven millions, are skilful laborers in their way. Their mode of husbandry is, in the way of contrast, so much the better for the display by the European or American farmer of his exquisite skill, and of the virtues of his improved implements, which last he can bring in duty free.

It is not advisable at present for immigrants without money to come to Mexico, unless they come under the auspices of some friend, who can assist them, or under the care of some one of the various companies for establishing colonies that have been recently incorporated. Some of these propose to bring the immigrants into the country; to furnish them with land; to establish them on their farms; to subsist them for a while; and to receive a certain portion of their crops for the loans advanced for these various services Many who have some means, and desire to come in companies to Mexico and establish themselves on some of these fine, but abandoned, haciendas, wish to know where these haciendas are, and their price.

Answer. In almost every part, and at any price, from a few cents to a few dollars the acre.

Of course the prices named to me, though moderate, are the asking prices.

It is best for every such company of immigrants to send some of their number ahead to select a place, and bargain for it themselves. Bryant, from Arkansas, has established a colony in Chihuahua. Mitchell, of Missouri, another on the Rio Verde, in the department of San Luis Potosi. Terry, of Texas, another in Jalisco.

They rent at first, with the privilege of purchase in the mean time at a stated price.

Then there is the fine colony of Carlotta, near Cordova, where the lands were abandoned. There was a number of haciendas in that neighborhood that were indebted for more than they were worth to the church, and which, by the Juarez government, were confiscated.

These have been ex-appropriated by the emperor and applied to colonization.

These lands are sold to immigrants at $1 per acre in five equal annual instalments. Generals Price and Shelby, of Missouri, Governor Harris, of Tennessee, Judge Perkins, of Louisiana, the Rev. Mr. Holeman, of Missouri, and a number of others, have already established themselves there.

They are all highly pleased with their prospects. By the time the railway hence to Vera Cruz is completed, and their last instalment falls due, they will have improved their farms, when the most staid among them expect that their lands will be worth $10, $20, and even $50 per acre. A gentleman from Louisiana has been there for seven or eight years. He established a coffee plantation of eighty acres, which is now in good bearing, and the crop from which, last year, was valued at $16,000.

The Cordova coffee sells in New York market as Java, and the tobacco equals that of Cuba, while the sugar has fourteen per cent. more of saccharine matter than that of Cuba.

It will cost at the rate of some $5 or $6 per acre to clear, enclose and bring these lands under cultivation. Hence it will be much cheaper for those who have a little money to buy haciendas with ground already cleared, fences made,

and houses, or at least walls of houses, already erected. All the lands of this colony are already, or soon will be, taken up. Each married man there is allowed 640 acres, but it is now generally admitted that one-fourth of that quantity will probably be quite as much as one family will be able to cultivate.

It is fertile, and wonderfully productive.

But to emigrants with a little capital, the speedy filling up of this colony should not be disheartening, under the idea that there are no more good lands and choice spots.

There are better lands than these, both about Cordova and Jalapa, which, present owners not being able to work, are ready to sell on favorable terms.

Agents have been established at various convenient points to assist immigrants on their arrival in the country, by giving them information and furnishing them with the necessary certificates and passports to enable them to pass the custom-houses, to enjoy all the rights, privileges, and exemptions of the emperor's decree.

It has not been, as yet, practicable to establish agencies on the Rio Grande, but as soon as it may be done, one will be stationed at Presidio del Norte.

At present the following agencies have been established, viz:

Y. P. Oropesa, at Vera Cruz; J. Perkins, formerly of Louisiana, at Cordova; J. T. Lux, formerly of New Mexico, at Monterey; Alonso Ridley, formerly of California, at Mazatlan; captain of the port of Tampico, at Tampico; captain of the port of S. Blas, at S. Blas; captain of the port of Matamoras, at Matamoras; D. Ramon de la Vega, president de Mejoras de Colima, at Manzanilla.

I am about to embark for England, expecting to return to this beautiful land accompanied by my family. The office is left in charge of the sub-commissioner, R. L. Maury, who, during my absence will attend to the business of the office. He is earnest in the cause, and has now in hand a guide-book for immigrants which will soon be ready for the press.

The rainy season commences in June and ends in October. Immigrants should not come by sea during that time.

There are many inquiries made also as to religious liberty in Mexico.

Perfect freedom of worship is guaranteed by the organic law of the empire, and sanctioned by the Pope.

I have just returned from the palace, where I had a long and interesting interview with the emperor. I read him your questions; we discussed them *seriatim;* and he gave his answers to them one by one; I repeat your questions and give his answers:

"1. Will Protestant clergymen be tolerated, and permitted to enjoy their religious opinions and worship in these colonies without molestation?"

Yes, and encouraged.

"2. Can a support be provided for such clergymen?"

Yes, as soon as I get my finances in a better condition.

"3. Will they be sustained in the establishment of Protestant schools and colleges?"

Yes.

"4. Would a Protestant bishop be allowed among them?"

Certainly.

"5. Will the government do anything towards the support of the schools and colleges?"

Yes.

"6. Could endowments of land, or otherwise, now be made for their support?"

Yes, by lands and voluntary contributions now, and money from the government afterwards.

"7. Would it be possible for the present to engraft on the University of

Mexico a department in which the studies, lectures, and instructions in general, should be in the English language?"

The question suggests a capital idea; converse further with —— upon that point. I desire to see communities of different religious persuasions established in this country, and to give encouragement to all, for they act and react upon each other with wholesome effect.

I have quoted as nearly as, after the interval of an hour, I can remember the words used by this remarkable, clear-headed, and business-like sovereign.

There is a clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Holeman, in the colony of Carlotta, near Cordova. He is the only preacher, except the Rev. Mr. Mitchell, (Methodist,) of the Rio Verde colony, that I have as yet heard of among the settlers.

In the city of Mexico there is a large number of English and American residents who are anxious to engage the services of an Episcopal clergyman, who can minister unto them in their mother tongue. They meet at the houses of one another on Sundays, when the services of the church and a sermon are read. I have attended service in a sort of upper loft, or retired room, such as we may imagine the early Christians met together in, and in which the congregation were all Mexicans. There were not more than a dozen or two, but enough apparently, to represent all classes of society.

The services were performed in Spanish, with the prayer-book in that language. The sermon was a very good one. It was also preached in Spanish, by a Mexican, who had been a priest of the Roman Catholic church. Other Protestant denominations also have their meetings in the same quiet way, and Protestant bibles are freely sold. So you observe, my dear sir, even here in Mexico, a field and a harvest, much room for and a great lack of laborers.

Come to us!

We have accounts now of some six or eight hundred immigrants with their families, who are on their way thence, and who are preparing to come hither.

I had an offer this morning of lands for colonization on the north bank of the Panuco river.

They commence about thirty miles west of Tampico, and extend up to the table land. This tract includes several hundred square leagues. It is in what is known here as the Huasteca country, decidedly one of the finest regions of the whole empire. The owner, a Mexican, is most anxious for our people to establish themselves upon these lands, and has requested me to tell him how to get them there. "Give them alternate sections, with a pre-emption right to the rest at $2 per acre." "I will do it," said he, "and give the lands for roads and villages besides." He has now gone to reduce his offer to writing.

The river is navigable, but the country there has been for years, and until recently, in a disorderly and unsafe state.

A few months ago, however, the people there gave in their adhesion to the empire, and everything now is as orderly and as quiet as could be desired.

A party of surveyors went out yesterday from the land office to survey a fine body of public lands in Mitlatoyuca, one of the sub-districts of that region.

We hear of immigrants who are coming from the south to the number of several hundred families. They should aim to arrive in this country by the first of May, if possible. They will then have an opportunity, unless they come by land, to shelter themselves by the time the rains commence.

Yours, very truly,

M. F. MAURY,
Imperial Commissioner.

HO FOR MEXICO!—NOTICE TO IMMIGRANTS.

THE FORNS COLONY.

MEXICO, *February* 9, 1866.

The Imperial Commissioner of Colonization is hereby authorized to dispose of twenty-five square leagues of land (108,459 acres) of my hacienda of Limon, situated on Panuco river, in the department of Tamaulipas, giving gratis every alternate section—640 acres—to a man with family; 320 to an unmarried man—with pre-emption right in each case to as much more at two dollars per acre.

I will give also gratis enough land for a town, as well as for a road sixteen yards wide traversing the entire colony from north to south.

J. O. FORNS.

FEBRUARY 10, 1866.

The offer of Mr. Forns is most princely; the land is situated in the Huasteca country, on the mountain borders of the Tierra Caliente. It is said to be healthy, and is admirably adapted to the cultivation of coffee, cotton, sugar, rice, tobacco, and the whole list of intertropical fruits and productions; it is also a good stock country with an abundance of timber. The Panuco river is navigable up to it, and boats are running on that stream. Provisions are plenty, but labor is said to be not very abundant, the usual price being 37½ cents a day and found.

Those who come from any of the Gulf ports should take shipping direct to Tampico, taking care not to come later than the first or middle of May, on account of the rainy season, which commences in June. Immigrants are advised to send out their pioneers first to make ready for their families to follow.

The best time for planting the first corn crop is in June, after the rains have commenced. This is the surest of the three corn crops. November is the time for planting again; cotton, corn, and tobacco may be put in the ground now and gathered from March onward until the rains again.

Immigrants should not begin to arrive at Tampico before the last of March. Mr. Forns will then be on his hacienda to receive them and show them their lands.

This is a well wooded country, and immigrants will do well to provide one or two good portable saw-mills for each settlement. They should also bring with them seed of all sorts.

The collector of the port at Tampico is authorized to pass the effects of immigrants duty free; to issue them the certificates which secure to them all their rights under the decree, and to speed them on their way.

M. F. MAURY,
Imperial Commissioner.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

OFFICE OF COLONIZATION, 13 SAN JUAN DE LETRAN,
Mexico, April 10, 1866.

SIR: Yours of March 6th I have just received. Since the letter of mine which you speak of was written, the Yankees have refused to permit our transportation agents to act in the United States, and thus his majesty's intention of furnishing passage to needy immigrants has been frustrated. As immigrants are now coming faster than we want them, it is probably that this offer will not be renewed, as we can get as many colonists as we desire, without giving them this aid. You would do very well to bring your negroes with you.

The general will sell you six hundred and forty acres at one dollar per acre. Mr. Forns will give you that much.

You should not arrive between June and October, on account of the yellow fever.

Respectfully,

RICHARD L. MAURY,
Sub-Commissioner, late Colonel C. S. Army.

O. G. O'NEAL,
Columbus, Georgia.

No. 152.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 20, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 12th instant, containing two letters of Richard L. Maury, addressed to persons residing in the southern States of the United States, on the subject of the contemplated establishment of colonies in Mexico, for which be pleased to accept my thanks.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 14.

AFFAIRS AT BAGDAD.

List of papers.

153.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward, (with three enclosures)	March 30, 1866.
154.	Same to same, (with one enclosure)	March 30, 1866.
155.	Same to same, (with eight enclosures)	March 31, 1866.
156.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero, (with one enclosure)	April 22, 1866.
157.	Same to same, (with two enclosures)	June 2, 1866.
158.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	June 4, 1866.
159.	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero	July 7, 1866.
160.	Same to same	Aug. 8, 1866.
161.	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward	Aug. 9, 1866.

No. 153.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, March 30, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to enclose you the copy, in English, of a communication dated the 6th of February last, and sent to me from Brownsville by Colonel Enrique A. Mejia, of the Mexican army. The original did not reach me. The duplicate, marked No. 1, I enclose to you with two other annexed documents, numbered 2 and 3.

In No. 1, and particularly in No. 2, a note addressed to General Weitzel, commanding on the Rio Grande, Colonel Mejia states that on the 14th of that

month, as he was steaming down the river on the government despatch boat with Captain Conklyn, first provost marshal general of the district, and Mr. Price, of the secret service of the same district, he overhauled several lighters and small boats tied up to the Mexican side of the river, about six miles above Boca del Rio, (Bagdad,) and within the jurisdiction of his command. Having boarded and examined them in fulfilment of his duty, he found the sloop Helena among them loaded with goods, and without any custom-house papers, or even an invoice, for which reason he seized it, and took it to Boca del Rio, (Bagdad,) where it was duly condemned and the goods confiscated.

Colonel Mejia acted in this matter in conformity with his duty, which is shown by a translation of his appointment in No. 3.

The goods were transferred to American territory and were regularly entered at the Clarksville custom-house to the credit of the Mexican government, but were soon after sequestrated by the military authorities of that place, Colonel Mejia states, and were to be delivered over to the original proprietors; and he complains of this proceeding as the goods were legally confiscated by the Mexican authorities on Mexican territory, and this he can prove by Captain Conklyn and Mr. Price, who were witnesses to the facts.

Having no other testimony to this affair than the enclosed documents, I limit myself to a request to have it referred to the proper department, that the government of the United States may act upon it with due justice; and if the goods have been unjustly delivered to the merchants of Matamoras claiming them, their value may be restored to the agents of the Mexican government.

I embrace the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.—Duplicate.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—COLONEL ON SPECIAL DUTY.

I have the honor of enclosing you a copy of the note which, under date of the 21st ultimo, I addressed to General Weitzel, referring to the cargo of the Helena. Said general has not answered, and the goods have been delivered to those who claimed them—the firm of Droege, Oetling & Co. Said goods were seized by order of General Weitzel, and remained by his order in military custody until they were delivered to Droege, Oetling & Co. The only thing that I could obtain was that the collector of the custom-house should take a bond from said firm of ($60,000) sixty thousand dollars in gold, until the matter should be decided by the military authorities or the Treasury Department at Washington.

I cannot understand how said military authorities could take cognizance in matters beyond their jurisdiction, but the copy I enclose will explain the matter.

I have thought very strangely of this proceeding, as I do not believe there is any justice in said detention, which causes us great damage.

I beg you to give this matter the attention it deserves, and I avail myself of the opportunity to renew my respectful consideration.

Independence and liberty! Brownsville, February 5, 1866.

E. A. MEJIA.

Señor MATIAS ROMERO,

Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, &c., &c., Washington.

WASHINGTON, *March* 30, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.]

REPUBLIC OF MEXICO—COLONEL ON SPECIAL DUTY.

I would respectfully call your attention to the following facts: That on the 14th of this month I was steaming down the river on the government despatch boat; when about six miles above Bagdad, we saw several luggers and lighters tied up on the Mexican side of the river, within the jurisdiction of my command, which, as you will see by the accompanying certified translation of my appointment, included not only Bagdad but its dependencies.

I boarded and examined said lighters and found the sloop Helena had a cargo of merchandise, without clearance or pass of any kind, and immediately seized her for violating the laws of revenue of the Mexican republic. The fact of finding said lighter without even the regular invoice of the owners of said merchandise was conclusive evidence as to the illegality of her presence out of port. I had her turned into the port of Bagdad, and appointed a commission to inquire into the case, and by said commission the goods were legally condemned and confiscated. Said merchandise was brought over to this side as belonging to the government I have the honor to represent, regularly entered with all necessary papers in order, and were seized by the military authorities and by them held. I have since been informed that the goods were going to be released on claim of the former owners, residents of Matamoras.

I would respectfully represent that the facts of the case occurred beyond the jurisdiction of the United States; that the seizure was in accordance to our laws; and that I request that said goods be held until the action of the United States government can be obtained, for which purpose I remit the proper papers to Washington by first mail.

I would further state that there were in the despatch boat with me Captain Conklyn and Mr. Price; the first, provost marshal general of the district, and the second, of the secret service, who saw the whole facts of the capture, and can testify to the facts being as represented.

I beg your earnest attention to the above, and that said goods being seized in the first instance by the troops under your command, that they continue so to be held until the matter can be laid before your Secretary of State by our minister at Washington.

I avail myself of the opportunity of repeating to you the assurances of my highest respect.

Independence and liberty! January 21, 1866.

E. A. MEJIA.

Major General J. WEITZEL,
Commanding District of Rio Grande, Brownsville.

WASHINGTON, *March* 30, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

REPUBLIC OF MEXICO—ARMY CORPS OF THE NORTH—GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

Being compelled to march to the centre of the line for urgent matters of service, I have deemed it best to appoint you military commandant of this port and its dependencies, and this in a vigorous state of siege, with ample powers for its defence, in all matters including those of finances. You will increase

your forces by all possible means, acting in everything with fullest powers (*omnimodas*) and subject only to my instructions and orders.

Independence and liberty! Bagdad, January 8, 1866.

M. ESCOBEDO.

Colonel ENRIQUE A. MEJIA,
Military Commandant of Bagdad and its Dependencies.

WASHINGTON, *March* 30, 1866.

A true copy:

INGO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 154.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, March 30, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: Colonel Enrique A. Mejia, of the Mexican army, has written me from Galveston, Texas, as you will see from the copy of his communication which I have the honor to enclose to you, that, in the name of General Mariano Escobedo, chief of the army of the north, he requested a return of the arms, munitions, and artillery taken from the interventionists at Boca del Rio, (Bagdad,) and carried into United States territory by Colonel Adolfo de la Garza, where they were seized by the United States military authorities.

Colonel Mejia first applied to Colonel Brown, commander of the Rio Grande district, and learning that his orders were from General Wright, commander of the department of Texas, he went to Galveston to see that general, who told him that General Sheridan had ordered him to deliver the arms, munitions, and artillery in question to Tomas Mejia, chief of the interventionists, in Matamoras, which he had commanded to be done.

As I am ignorant of the motives for those orders, and cannot comprehend the reason for delivering munitions of war, taken by United States authorities from a republican general and his forces who had sought refuge in their territory, to an enemy of Mexico, I respectfully request your excellency to procure for me the information of the reasons of the order from the proper department, that I may make a proper communication for the interests of my government.

I embrace this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

MEXICAN REPUBLIC—COLONEL IN SERVICE.

As I informed you in my note of the 1st instant, when I requested Colonel Brown, commander of the Rio Grande district, to give me the arms, munitions, and artillery brought from Bagdad by Colonel Garza, he told me he had orders from General Wright, commander of the department of Texas, to give up nothing without his order.

Colonel Brown advised me to go to Galveston and see General Wright in person, as the best way to settle all the difficulties.

I went to Galveston, where General Wright informed me verbally that he had received orders from General Sheridan to deliver the arms, munitions, and artillery taken from Bagdad by our forces to General Tomas Mejia, chief of the traitors in Matamoras, and that the orders had been transmitted before my arrival in Galveston.

I was astonished at the proceeding, and, believing all protests useless, I determined to start for Washington in a few days to give you the particulars of the affair, as they are too numerous for the limits of a despatch.

Accept the assurances of my respectful consideration.

Independence and liberty! Galveston, March 6, 1866.

ENRIQUE A. MEJIA.

Citizen MATIAS ROMERO,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Mexican Republic in Washington.

WASHINGTON, *March* 30, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 155.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, March 31, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have the honor to enclose to you the copy in English of a communication addressed to me by Colonel Enrique A. Mejia, of the Mexican army, dated the 4th of February last, with annexed documents numbered from two to six, and two others in Spanish, numbered seven and eight—sent to me subsequently by the same colonel, all relating to certain merchandise confiscated at Boca del Rio, (Bagdad,) by order of General Mariano Escobedo, because it appeared, by testimony of the person who had charge of them, that they belonged to the pretended government of the interventionists.

Hoping that the proceedings in this matter will be conducted with that justice which may be expected from the government of the United States, I enclose you these documents, requesting you to refer them to the proper department, that the affair may be considered with a full knowledge of the facts.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

REPUBLIC OF MEXICO—COLONEL ON OFFICIAL DUTY.

I enclose you copies of the correspondence which passed between the undersigned and the American authorities, referring to the goods confiscated by General Escobedo during his occupancy of Bagdad. By them you will perceive that disregarding their want of jurisdiction in the matter, they detain said goods, and even recommend they be returned to those who claim them. Said goods were the property of the traitors, and General Escobedo, on confiscating them,

only fulfilled his duty. I entered them by order of General Escobedo, in the custom-house of Clarksville, and gave bond for twice the amount of their value. I hope that you will deem it proper, as they are national property, to take the necessary steps, so that said articles may be returned to us. I offer you the assurance of my respectful consideration.

Independence and liberty! February 4, 1866.

E. A. MEJIA.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Mexican republic at Washington City, D. C.

WASHINGTON, *March* 31, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 2.]

REPUBLIC OF MEXICO—COLONEL ON SPECIAL DUTY.

In answer to the query of January 23, respecting certain goods claimed by Elosequi and Mayoral, of Matamoras, I beg to inform you that the general-in-chief of the army corps of the north seized a certain amount of goods as property of the enemy, and also because the regular tax on said parties was not paid as assessed, and directed me to cross them over to Clarksville and dispose of them as I thought best. I enclose list of the articles seized, which were shipped to Mr. A. A. McLeffey, subject to the order of the undersigned. Any other goods not enumerated in the accompanying list have been fraudulently obtained, and I shall be glad if they be returned to the proper owners.

Independence and liberty! February 24, 1866.

E. A. MEJIA.

Major General WEITZEL,
Commanding District of Rio Grande.

WASHINGTON, *March* 31, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

REPUBLIC OF MEXICO—COLONEL ON SPECIAL DUTY.

List of articles seized by order of General Mariano Escobedo.

504 pounds of thread, 20 gross knives and forks, 1,200 yards hickory stripe, 75 reams paper, 6 dozen umbrellas, (ladies',) 6 packages tin, 5 dozen axes, 14 boxes claret, 31 boxes tea, damaged.

Independence and liberty! January 24, 1866.

E. A. MEJIA.

WASHINGTON, *March* 31, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 4.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE RIO GRANDE,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL,
Brownsville, Texas, January 24, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose herewith the application of Elosequi and Mayoral, marked exhibit A, for the return of certain merchandise supposed to be at Clarksville and Brazos de Santiago.

I also enclose the official statement of Colonel E. A. Mejia, marked exhibit B, showing what portion of those goods were confiscated by the liberal government.

The major general commanding directs that the merchandise contained in exhibit A, and not included in exhibit B, be at once returned to the proper owners thereof, and that the merchandise called for in exhibit B be stored in some convenient place and safely guarded, to abide instructions from department headquarters.

Should any of these goods have been removed from Clarksville, you will immediately furnish the commanding officer where they may be deposited with these instructions, in order that they may be carried out strictly.

All acts done pursuant to these instructions will be reported to this office without delay.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN S. CONKLYN,
Capt. and Act. Prov. Marshal General, District of the Rio Grande.

MARCH 31, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 5.]

Exhibit A.

BAGDAD, MEXICO, *January* 20, 1866.

During the recent troubles arising from the capture of this city, certain unknown parties have forcibly entered our warehouse and taken away the following articles, viz:

P. H. Thirty-three (33) chests of tea.
Y. D. Ninety (90) boxes of claret.
F. & C. Twelve (12) boxes of claret.
[SS.] One (1) case of claret.
(5.) One (1) case of claret.
L. D. Two (2) cases of paper.
L. D. One (1) case knives and forks.
L. D. One (1) case umbrellas.
L. D. Twenty-four (24) boxes of axes.
L. D. Twenty-five (25) boxes tin cases.

We have ascertained that the tea and part of the other merchandise above mentioned lie presently at Clarksville, and some at the custom-house landing, and some deposited at Mr. McGoffey, the sutler general. There also lie presently at Clarksville one or two lighters, namely, the schooner Matamoras and lugger Rio, which have been forcibly taken away from our own landing here.

We therefore respectfully request that the case be investigated, and some arrangement made by which said property be returned to us. Hoping to be soon favored with an answer, we remain, colonel,

Your obedient servants,

ELOSEQUI & MAYORAL,
By JOHN FALLS.

Colonel FRANK J. WHITE,
Commanding U. S. Forces at Bagdad.

WASHINGTON, *March* 31, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 6.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
Brownsville, January 22, 1866.

COLONEL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this date, in reference to a quantity of goods held in military custody, under orders from Major General Weitzel, but which are claimed by you as belonging to the Mexican government, of which you are the agent.

It appears from other papers in the case that the goods are claimed by other parties as their lawful property, who have asked that they be held until the question of title can be decided, and this question is one to which the United States is not a party. The military authorities are not empowered to act. Your remedy, therefore, must be found in the civil courts, or the action of the authorities at Washington, to the latter of which your communication and such other papers as I have in relation to the subject will be promptly referred.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. E. WRIGHT,
Major General Commanding.

Colonel ENRIQUE A. MEJIA,
Brownsville, Texas.

WASHINGTON, *March* 31, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 7.]

To the military commander of Bagdad and its dependencies:

Please let me know if you authorized any one to take private property in my name.

Independence and liberty! Bagdad, January 16, 1866.

ENRIQUE A. MEJIA.

Lieut. Col. EDUARDO DU MAY.

WASHINGTON, *March* 31, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

[Enclosure No. 8.]

BAGDAD, *January* 16, 1866.

COLONEL: I have the honor to acknowledge your communication of to-day, and in reply I must say, that while I acted as commander of this place, General Escobedo ordered me to visit the various mercantile establishments and collect a forced loan for the aid of the forces stationed here.

In obedience to this order, I visited various establishments of this city, and among others that of Mr. Mayoral, whom I did not see, but I met a French lady who said she was the wife of the manager of the establishment, and I communicated my order to her. She answered that as Mr. Mayoral was not present, she could do nothing in regard to the loan; but there were some goods in the store, belonging to the so-called imperial government, (and she pointed them out,) which I could take. I made this known to General Escobedo, and he ordered me to confiscate the goods, put them on board a sloop, and send them across the river. I communicated the order to one of my adjutants, who went to the store, seized the goods, and put them aboard a schooner lying at the landing and left them there till further orders. The next day the vessel was taken to the other side of the river.

And this is all I know of the affair.

I renew the protests of my respectful consideration.

EDUARDO DU MAY.

Colonel MEJIA,
Military Commander of Bagdad and its dependencies.

WASHINGTON, *March* 31, 1866.

A true copy:

IGNO. MARISCAL, *Secretary.*

No. 156.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, April 22, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your three notes, two of which are dated on the 30th and one on the 31st ultimo, referring to the seizure of certain arms and munitions of war and to the sequestration of certain merchandise, said to belong to the liberal government of Mexico, by right of capture and confiscation.

In reply, I have the honor to inform you that, in compliance with your request, translations of the aforesaid notes and the enclosures accompanying them have been referred to the Secretary of War, a copy of whose answer I have the honor to transmit to you.

So soon as the reports of Generals Sheridan and Weitzel are received at this department, copies of them will be communicated to you.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you, sir, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c., Washington, D. C.*

[Enclosure.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, April 19, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt from the State Department of the following papers:

1st. Communication of the 18th instant, with Señor Romero's note, respecting merchandize said to belong to the liberal government of Mexico, and now held by the United States military authorities, subject to the decision of the War Department.

2d. Communication of the 18th instant, with Señor Romero's note respecting the sequestration by the United States military authorities at Clarksville of certain goods said belong to the Mexican liberal government.

3d. Communication of the 18th instant, with Señor Romero's note respecting the seizure of certain arm, &c., from liberal forces of Mexico, and their surrender to the commander of the imperial forces in Matamoras, and to acquaint you that they have been referred to Generals Sheridan and Weitzel for investigation and report. Agreeably to your request, on the receipt of the latter, they will be communicated to you.

Very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

Hon. W. H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

No. 157.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, June 2, 1866.

SIR: Referring to my communication to you of the 22d of April last, I have now the honor to enclose herewith a copy of a letter of the 30th ultimo received from the War Department, and of the report of General Weitzel, which accompanies it.

I have the honor to be, with high consideration, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, May 30, 1866.

SIR: I am directed by the Secretary of War to herewith transmit, agreeably to the request made in your communication of the 18th ultimo, a copy of the report of General Weitzel with reference to the sequestration at Clarksville, Texas, of certain goods claimed by the Mexican liberal government by the right of seizure and confiscation.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

THOS. T. ECKERT,
Acting Assistant Secretary of War.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

CINCINNATI, *May* 9, 1866.

SIR: In answer to the letter of the 25th ultimo from your office I have the honor to report on the subject referred to in the enclosed papers as follows:

Immediately after the capture of Bagdad, in January, plundering began. The goods thus plundered were immediately brought over to Clarksville, on the Texas side, and the revenue officers, notwithstanding the greatest exertions, could not protect the revenue. The collector of the district immediately called upon me for assistance, which was granted at once. Colonel Mejia, who was in command at Bagdad, informed me several days afterwards that plundering still continued, and the goods smuggled across to our side, and at his suggestion all goods that came across were held, to give their owners a chance to reclaim them through the civil authorities of Texas. While this arrangement was in force the lighter load of goods referred to was brought over to Clarksville, and was at once claimed by the owners, (citizens of Prussia.) The goods were attached as stolen property by the sheriff of Cameron county, and the case tried. Colonel Mejia had counsel. The State laws of Texas grant the courts of Texas power to try such cases, and seem to have been specially made for cases of this kind, and to protect the inhabitants of Mexico. I was relieved before the case was decided, I believe. The military acted in this matter as an ally or support to the revenue officers. It did not sequester the goods. My only desire was to keep clear of the whole thing. I sincerely believe that no wrong was done to the Mexican liberal government, as all honest people, who know the case, will testify. The revenue laws of Mexico do not require a lighter to have papers or a clearance from Bagdad, because all vessels which sail from the Rio Grande are loaded by means of lighters. The goods on the lighter Helena were represented to be in transitu to Vera Cruz, and I firmly believe they were. They were moved up the river, I was told, to escape the shells of the French man-of-war. Mr. Charles Worthington, collector of the Rio Grande district, can probably more fully explain this matter and the action thereon. I know he tried only to do his duty in this matter.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Captain of Engineers and Brevet Brig. Gen. U. S. A.

Brevet Major General L. THOMAS,
Adjutant General U. S. A., Washington City, D. C.

No. 158.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, June 4, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I have had the honor to day of receiving your note of day before yesterday, enclosing the copy of a communication of the 30th ultimo from the War Department to you, with a copy of General Weitzel's report in relation to certain goods taken by Mexican forces at the mouth of the Rio Bravo, and confiscated in Clarksville, State of Texas, to which subject I alluded in my three notes of the 30th and 31st of March last to your department.

I send a copy to-day, with a translation of your note and the accompanying documents, to the Mexican government, that in view of them it may determine what is most convenient. Yet, as I would like to have further information of

what occurred in this case, I think it well to accept the suggestion made by General Weitzel in his report, to ask a report of the facts of the case of Mr. Charles Worthington, collector of customs at Brownsville, who was eye-witness to the occurrences. This will be the more easy to obtain, as I learn that Mr. Worthington is now in Georgetown, District of Columbia.

From the slight knowledge that General Weitzel seems to have of the facts, the information of persons better acquainted with them seems desirable.

I embrace the occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 159.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 7, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 4th ultimo, in which you express a desire for additional information on the subject of the goods taken by the Mexican forces at the mouth of the Rio Bravo and confiscated at Clarksville, Texas, and to inform you that the information has been applied for and will be transmitted to you as soon as received.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 160.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 8, 1866.

SIR: Referring to your communication of the 30th of March last, in which you transmit, for the information of the department, a letter received by you from Colonel Enrique A. Mejia, requesting in the name of General Escobedo, commanding the army of the north, a return of certain arms, munitions and artillery alleged to belong to the republican government of Mexico, taken into the possession of the military authorities of the United States, and to your request to have the matter investigated, and to your communication of the same date, desiring a similar investigation of the alleged taking by the military authorities of the United States of certain goods said to belong to the republic of Mexico, I have the honor to communicate to you the fact as gathered from official reports of the commanding officer of the department of the Gulf to the War Department, and the conclusions to which this department has arrived after a due examination of the same.

The capture of Bagdad, far from being a legitimate operation of a belligerent power, or in the interest of a belligerent power, is stated to have been simply a buccaneering scheme, set on foot by four designing persons at Clarksville, Texas, taking to their aid some colored soldiers of the United States service, without either the permission or sanction of the officers of their command. The sole object of the expedition seems to have been the pillaging of the town, as was

evinced by the action of the parties conducting it. Immediately after the capture, the plunder was transferred to the Texas side of the river, the town remaining in charge of one Crawford, without, as it is reported, any troops under his command. The arms, munitions, and artillery captured in this expedition becoming unsafe in the absence of any troops to hold the town, they were transferred to the Texas side of the river and the town was abandoned. Thereupon they were taken by the military authorities of the United States and subsequently restored to the original owners.

As regards the goods which you state to have been sequestrated by the military authorities of Clarksville, your informants seem to have been in error as to the true nature of the affair. The goods were seized by the custom-house officers of Clarksville, for a violation of the revenue laws. The title to them was litigated in a civil court between the original owners, Messrs. Droege, Oetling & Co., and the officers of the Mexican republic who brought them into port, and they were adjudged to the former. Under these circumstances the executive government of the United States could not change the decision of one of the legally constituted courts of the country, but must refer any further claim to the goods to the proper course of justice, which, in this case, would be an appeal from the judgment of the court.

I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate to you my expressions of the most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor Don M. Romero, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 161.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

Mexican Legation in the United States of America,
Washington, August 9, 1866.

Mr. Secretary: I have the honor to acknowledge the reception of the note you were pleased to address to me yesterday in regard to the capture of certain goods coming from Mexico by United States employés in Clarksville, to which I referred in my notes of the 30th and 31st of May and 4th of June last. As I have already submitted the determination of this affair to my government, it only remains for me to transmit your note to the department of foreign relations of the Mexican republic, which I will do by this week's mail.

I am pleased to embrace the occasion of renewing to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. William H. Seward, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 15.

FORCED LOANS AT MATAMORAS.

List of papers.

162. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero, (with two enclosures,).....October 20, 1866.
163. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward .....October 22, 1866.

No. 162.

Mr. Seward to Señor Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 20, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose a copy of a letter of the 14th ultimo, received at this department from the Secretary of War, transmitting a letter dated at New Orleans on the 24th of August, 1866, from Mr. James B. Gauche, a citizen of the United States, to Major General Sheridan, complaining of the exaction from him, by the liberal authorities of Matamoras, of forced loans to the amount of $1,900, and to beg of you to call the attention of your government to the matters complained of.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON M. ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure No. 1.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, September 14, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a communication of August 24, 1866, to Major General Sheridan, commanding department of the Gulf, from John B. Gauche, a citizen of the United States, complaining that he has been compelled to subscribe to the imperial forced loan in Matamoras, Mexico, and applying for redress.

You will please indicate to this department any action which you think proper to be taken by the military authorities.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

NEW ORLEANS, *August* 24, 1866.

GENERAL: The undersigned begs leave to bring to your notice, and through you to that of the government at Washington, the following facts:

I am a native of the United States, and have resided and carried on business as a merchant in Matamoras, in the republic of Mexico, for the last three years. During that time I have constantly been known as a loyal citizen of the United States, for which the former American consul, Mr. Pierce, (now at Brownsville,) and the present one, Mr. Avery, will vouch.

During the present civil war in Mexico, Matamoras has been alternately in possession of the different contending parties; and at every change of masters a forced loan was imposed by the commander for the time upon the commerce of the place, aliens as well as natives. For these forced loans orders were given upon the custom-house payable in duties, which were only good so long as the party issuing the order remained in power, for their successors invariably repudiated them. In the case of the subscriber General Cortina compelled him to loan him (Cortina) five hundred dollars, for which the subscriber received an order upon the custom-house. General Mejia next took the city and drove out

Cortina. The subscriber presented Cortina's order in payment of duties, but was told it was good for nothing.

Then General Mejia imposed upon the undersigned a forced loan of two thousand dollars. One thousand of this the subscriber got rid of at a discount of twenty per cent., and of the other thousand he is a loser.

Next to Mejia came General Carvajal, who called upon the undersigned for fifteen hundred dollars; but application having been made to General Getty, commanding the American forces in Brownsville, through the intercession of that officer the peremptory requisition of Carvajal was changed into a request that the undersigned would give whatever he pleased. Fearful of the annoyances which would have been the consequence of a refusal, the undersigned gave General Carvajal two hundred dollars.

General Carvajal has very lately been [expected] by one of his officers named Canales, who is for the moment in possession; but there are three other officers, Hinojose, Cortinas, and Negrete, around Matamoras, all seeking to get in, and whichever of the four succeeds in holding possession, we, the merchants, are sure to be assessed for a forced loan.

It is hoped that when the attention of our government is awakened to the true state of things, a stop will be put to these robberies of our citizens by the banditti who wear the Mexican uniform. For my part I am the loser already, as above stated, of nineteen hundred dollars, and have the best reason to apprehend that I will be still further plundered. It is the established and inveterate system of governments in Mexico, a system disgraceful to civilization as that which formerly prevailed in the Mediterranean under the piratical rule of the Dey of Algiers.

The undersigned believes that it can be only corrected by an energetic display of power on the part of our government.

All of which is most respectfully submitted by, general, your very obedient servant,

JOHN B. GAUCHE.

Major General SHERIDAN,
Commanding the Department of the Gulf.

No. 163.

Señor Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, October 22, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: I was honored to-day with your note of the 20th instant, enclosing a communication from the Secretary of War, dated 14th of September last, and a letter from John B. Gauche, a citizen of the United States, addressed to General Sheridan, the 14th of August, complaining that the authorities of Matamoras had forced him to pay nineteen hundred dollars.

You requested me, in transmitting to me these papers, to call the attention of my government to the affair. In reply, I have to inform you that I will forward a copy and translation of your note, with documents, to the minister of foreign affairs of the Mexican republic, in Chihuahua, by the next mail.

I beg of you, however, to permit me to say in regard to this subject that, from Mr. Gauche's own account, most of the money he lost, that is, one thousand dollars, was extorted from him, and never repaid, by Thomas Mejia, who then held Matamoras in the name of the order of things that the French have been

endeavoring to establish in Mexico, and that the national government, which the French have been trying to overthrow, in a war without quarter, is not responsible for acts of its enemies invading the territory and attempting to establish illegal authorities.

I must also say that Mejia's refusal to return Mr. Gauche the five hundred dollars taken from him by Cortina cannot be charged to the Mexican government, for the reasons above stated.

I have no doubt, however, the Mexican government will do all it can to do full justice to Mr. Gauche and other citizens of the United States, who feel themselves aggrieved by acts which are the unavoidable consequences of a war like that now desolating my native land.

I take the occasion to repeat to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c*

No. 16.

OCCUPATION OF MEXICAN TERRITORY BY UNITED STATES TROOPS.

List of papers.

164. Major General Sheridan to General Grant.....November 27, 1866.
165. Mr. Stanton to Major General Sheridan .....November 30, 1866.
166. Major General Sheridan to General Grant.....November 30, 1866.
167. Same to same.....December 1, 1866.
168. Major General Sheridan to General Grant.....December 10, 1866.
169. Same to same.....December 11, 1866.
170. Major General Sheridan to Brevet Major General Rawlins.....December 11, 1866.
171. Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.....December 13, 1866.
172. Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.....December 17, 1866.

No. 164.

Major General Sheridan to General Grant.

OFFICE U. S. MILITARY TELEGRAPH, WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., November 27, 1866.

[Received 4.30 p. m.]

NEW ORLEANS, *November* 27, 1866.

General U. S. GRANT, *Commanding Army:*

I am just in receipt of news from Brownsville, and fear that General Sedgwick, commanding the sub-district of the Rio Grande, will, for some unaccountable and unjustifiable reason, demand of Canales the surrender of the town of Matamoras, on the plea of preventing the pillage of houses of Americans, &c. The situation there is this: General Escobedo is in front of the city with about three thousand five hundred (3,500) men, and Canales offered to surrender if the liberal government would pay the merchants who have been supporting him in his illegal and infamous acts. This Escobedo would not agree to. I very

much fear that these very merchants have in some way gotten around Sedgwick, who is, I fear, not a strong man, and have prompted him to this action which he contemplates. I have heretofore notified you that these very merchants were at the bottom of all the troubles over there. There is perfect harmony between Sedgwick and General Escobedo, and no objections are made to the contemplated act of General Sedgwick. Should General Sedgwick act as I have some reason to expect, I will at once disapprove of his action and relieve him from his command. I have telegraphed to General Sedgwick disapproving his contemplated act, or any action he may have taken in view of it.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major General U. S. A.

Official: GEO. K. LEET, *A. A. G.*

No. 165.

Mr. Stanton to Major General Sheridan.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, November 30, 1866—4 p. m.

Your telegram of the 27th instant to General Grant in relation to the contemplated action of General Sedgwick in crossing the Rio Grande has been submitted to the President and your action in relation to General Sedgwick is approved, and General Sedgwick's proposed action disapproved. If he shall have crossed the Rio Grande you will relieve him and place him in arrest, to await the further order of the President concerning him.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

Major Gen. P. H. SHERIDAN,
New Orleans, Louisiana.

No. 166.

Major General Sheridan to General Grant.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
New Orleans, Louisiana, November 30, 1866.

MY DEAR GENERAL: The report in the newspapers that General Sedgwick had crossed the Rio Grande is premature. He certainly had not crossed or demanded the surrender of the town on the 23d instant, and I hope he has not made this blunder.

There is no doubt in my mind but that General Sedgwick has had some influence brought to bear on him.

Sedgwick went over to Matamoras and took breakfast with the merchants on the morning he wrote the letter which I enclosed to you. There is something wrong about this transaction.

Escobedo was about to take the place by assault and was able to do it, when Sedgwick apparently adopted his course to prevent it and save the merchants.

The whole affair, should it take place, will not complicate things, and my disapproval of it must have reached Brownsville yesterday, 29th instant.

I am, general, very respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major General U. S. A.

Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies United States, Washington, D. C.

Official:

GEO. K. LEET,
Assistant Adjutant General.

No. 167.

Major General Sheridan to General Grant.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
New Orleans, December 1, 1866—10 a. m.

GENERAL: I have an opportunity to go over to the Rio Grande this evening, and by going I think I can settle the Ortega affair, also the Sedgwick trouble, if any has occurred, and put things on a good footing, but I would like to have your approval of my absence. Affairs are in good condition here, and General Forsyth communicates to me from Texas frontier, no Indian troubles.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major General.

General U. S. GRANT.

Official:

GEO. K. LEET,
Assistant Adjutant General.

No. 168.

Major General Sheridan to General Grant.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, *December* 10, 1866.

GENERAL: I have the honor to notify you of my return from the Rio Grande frontier. I have the honor to report affairs there in very good condition. On the 28th of November General Sedgwick demanded and obtained the surrender of the city of Matamoras from General Canales, occupying it with about one hundred men. On the 30th he received my orders disapproving his action, and withdrew his men to our side of the river. The object of the occupation was for the alleged purpose of protecting American citizens, but the real facts are that he was made the cat's-paw of shrewd merchants of Matamoras, who wanted to secure the liabilities which were due to them from Canales before he was obliged to give up the city to the liberal forces. General Sedgwick's action was without authority and in violation of written instructions as to the manner in which the grievances of Amercian citizens in Matamoras should be redressed. I have relieved him from his command, in obedience to orders from the Secretary of War, and placed him in arrest, subject to further orders from the President. Matamoras passed into the hands of Escobedo on the 30th of November, and a better condition of affairs now exists on the Rio Grande frontier than has for the last eighteen months. A detailed report will be forwarded by to-morrow's mail.

P. H. SHERIDAN.
Major General.

General U. S. GRANT, *Washington.*

Official:

GEO. K. LEET,
Assistant Adjutant General

No. 169.

Major General Sheridan to General Grant.

NEW ORLEANS, *December* 11, 1866—1 p. m.

GENERAL: I telegraphed you last evening of the good condition of affairs on the Rio Grande. The act of General Sedgwick gave rise to no complications; in fact, General Escobedo called on me to ask me not to hold him responsible for it. The Canales faction having been submerged, I was enabled to release General Ortega, upon Escobedo promising that he would look out for him. There is not a city or State in Mexico which takes issue against Juarez's government. On my return I met General Sherman at Brazos Santiago. He had just come from Vera Cruz, and was *en route* with Mr. Campbell for Matamoras.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major General, &c.

General U. S. GRANT.

Official:

GEO. K. LEET,
Assistant Adjutant General.

No. 170.

Major General Sheridan to Brevet Major General Rawlins.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
New Orleans, La., December 11, 1866.

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report of my recent trip to the Rio Grande frontier: I arrived at Brownsville at 4 o'clock on the morning of the 6th instant, and found that, on the 24th of November, General Sedgwick, commanding the sub-district of the Rio Grande, had demanded and received the surrender of the city of Matamoras from Canales, who arbitrarily held possesion of the city against the legitimate authority of his government. That, on the 30th ultimo, the few United States troops (about fifty) holding the city had been withdrawn, in obedience to instructions sent by me disapproving the act of occupation or any action arising from it.

The motives which influenced Brevet Brigadier General Sedgwick in this act are unknown to me, but the alleged one of protecting American citizens and their property was in violation of a decision made by the honorable Secretary of State on this subject, which decision is on file in his office.

The case presents itself to my mind in this way: After the surrender of Matamoras to General Carvajal, the merchants of Matamoras—most of them foreign-born, and some claiming American citizenship, but ultra Maximilian adherents and blockade runners during the rebellion—induced Canales (a noted character) to pronounce against the authority of the liberal government. They had two objects in this: first, to help the imperial cause by creating as much dissension as possible among the liberal leaders; second, that they might pass out goods from the city free of duty, or nearly so. This worked well for them, and goods said to amount to a large sum of money were so moved out.

This condition of affairs continued until General Escobedo, in command of the liberal forces, advanced troops against Matamoras for its recapture. Pending this event Ortega was sent for, and, as Canales was a usurper, it was necessary to support him by a more noted character like Ortega; but Ortega having been arrested at Brazos Santiago, and Escobedo having laid siege to the city, these merchants were obliged to change their plans. They then proposed that Ca-

nales should surrender the city to Escobedo, if Escobedo would agree to pay them the money given, or said to have been given, to Canales, the amount being some six hundred thousand dollars, ($600,000.) This Escobedo refused, and fearing that they would lose their claim, and perhaps their property, if the city was taken, they brought their influence to bear on Brevet Brigadier General Sedgwick, and made him their "cat's-paw" to protect their interests. This is the point of the whole affair.

The occupation of the city was a mere matter of form, and had the consent of General Escobedo, who made no objections, and since the city passed into his hands has called on General Sedgwick in the most friendly manner, and asked me to forgive his action.

There is little doubt but that this unauthorized and harmless intervention does much to reconcile and bring about the very good condition of affairs that existed in Matamoras when I left Brownsville, which condition of affairs enabled me to release General Ortega, as he had but few friends on the Mexican side after the suppression of the Canales usurpation.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major General U. S. A.

Brevet Major General J. A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.

Official:

GEO. K. LEET,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Copy of an article published in the Rio Grande Courier, of date Brownsville December 7, 1866.

THE OCCUPANCY OF MATAMORAS.

From the despatches which appear in the northern papers, via Louisville, coupled with the arrival of General Sheridan at this point, it would seem well settled that Colonel Thomas D. Sedgwick either has been, or immediately will be, relieved from the command of the sub-district of the Rio Grande.

While the primary cause of this is, no doubt, the dissatisfaction felt by high authority on account of his course in the late occupancy of Matamoras, yet it is more than probable that some change would have occurred at an early date.

While we know of no earthly reason for reflecting upon the good intentions of Colonel Sedgwick, yet it has been well understood that the delicate position of affairs here requires a man of enlarged experience, both in military and civil matters. Colonel Sedgwick came to the command by virtue of seniority of rank solely, and without regard to fitness or qualification. He did not seek the place. Indeed, without claiming to speak by authority, we think we can safely say that he accepted it only because his official duty did not allow him to decline it.

It has so happened that the difficulties over the river, and the machinations upon this side, have been far greater and more numerous than usual during his administration, making his duties the more intricate and arduous.

It is impossible for either the authorities at New Orleans or at Washington to lay down a course of conduct to be followed in every case which may arise. All they can do is to mark out a general line of policy, leaving to the good sense and judgment of the commander here to attend to the details. To do this is oftentimes the most difficult part of the task.

The interests upon the other side of the Rio Grande are so often complicated, the leaders so numerous, their professions so persistent, and their skill at diplomacy so great, backed up, as they are, by any number of shrewd, intelligent lawyers, that he is indeed a man of unusual intelligence who can cope with them.

And for this reason we say, as we have before said, that there is no place upon the continent where a commanding officer of great sagacity and firmness is more required.

In the late fiasco, for such it was, Colonel Sedgwick has been simply outwitted by a combination of military and civil influences, the latter mostly of American nationality.

The foreign merchants and capitalists of Matamoras, who have been compelled to advance money to Canales, were naturally enough anxious for its return. Escobedo, in all attempts which were made at negotiations, persistently refused to recognize Canales's engagements. These merchants were consequently opposed to any surrender of the city which should involve the loss of the money advanced by them. Many of them were Americans, and, in these matters, had the ear of the commanding officer. In their advice and representations they were of course influenced by their interests. They were also in the confidence of Canales, for, in the matter pending, their interests lay with him. With these, and with Canales, who professedly recognized Juarez as President, Colonel Sedgwick had to deal; every question which might at the same time arise, the more complicated by the presence of an army, under the command of the recognized representative of Juarez, besieging the city, for whose success General Sedgwick was at all times anxious. The result was a blunder which, in its practical results, was in this instance "worse than a crime." The object desired, viz., the advancement of Escobeda's interest, was not obtained, but rather the contrary, as the presence of the American force, in the attack which followed, contributed very greatly to the success of Canales. Nor, as it seems, were the wishes of the government carried out, as, in rendering assistance to Juarez, his instructions did not warrant the occupancy of American territory. The result has been Colonel Sedgwick's removal. Though not as generally well known as his predecessors, socially he has been popular with our citizens, and, aside from his official duties, his departure from among us (should this be involved) will be regretted. In commenting upon his course in the late affair, this journal has felt compelled to criticise it with some severity. The result has shown that we were correct.

In doing so, we have been actuated by no unkind feelings to Colonel Sedgwick, but have acted solely for the honor and interest of the American name.

HEADQUARTERS A. U. S., *December* 27, 1866.

Official:

GEO. K. LEET, *A. A. G.*

No. 171.

Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.

[Translation.]

MEXICAN LEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, December 13, 1866.

Mr. SECRETARY: For some days past the public press of this country have been publishing the report of a strange act, attributed to General Sedgwick, commanding in chief the United States forces at Brownsville, State of Texas. It has been said that the general referred to sent troops of the United States, who occupied Matamoras, at the moment when that city was attacked by General Escobedo, to carry out the orders he had from the government of the Mexican republic; the necessary result of such occupation being, under the circumstances in which that garrison stood, to interpose great difficulty to its capture by General

Escobedo, whose forces were, in consequence, repulsed with serious and lamentable losses. This narrative, with more or less details, has been confirmed by private letters. Besides, I hoped to have before me the official report of such occurrences in order to recur to you in presenting the complaints which the case should require.

Notwithstanding, I have not yet been able to obtain the official report which I wished for, and as I have no doubt that the facts treated of have substantially taken place as the press has related them, I think myself obliged to call to them your attention, transmitting to you herewith the annexed extracts from the Tribune and the World, of New York—correspondent with the 6th day of this month. Convinced, as I am, through various trustworthy reports, that the occupation of Matamoras, to which I allude, did not emanate from orders and instructions from the President of the United States, my object now is only to express the pain caused to me by this uncalled for occurrence, through the mischief it occasioned to the loyal forces of my government, no less than for the sinister constructions which the enemies of the Mexican republic might put upon it, by attributing it to a direct intervention of the United States in the domestic affairs of that republic.

I should assure you that I entertain well-founded confidence that the government of the United States will take the measures necessary to chastise all who are responsible for the acts to which I confine myself, and to avoid in future the repetition of the like.

I avail of this occasion to repeat to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

M. ROMERO.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Special despatch to the New York World, December 6, 1856.]

CINCINNATI, *December 5.*

A special despatch to the Commercial, from Brownsville, Texas, dated November 30, says:

"General Sedgwick, on the 24th, made a formal demand on Colonel Canales for the immediate surrender of Matamoras, which was acceded to, and Canales occupied the fortifications, while the American flag floats over the city. A sufficient number of troops occupy the city to render the occupation secure.

"Escobedo attacked Canales on the 27th, and a desperate battle ensued, lasting three hours, resulting in the defeat of Escobedo, with a loss of six hundred men, including General Espinosa. Colonel Canales lost seventy-five men.

Escobedo lays his defeat to the interference of United States troops."

"Another despatch says Escobedo attacked Canales in Matamoras on Tuesday morning at half-past five o'clock, but fell back after two hours' desperate struggle. One occasion of his defeat was the occupation of Matamoras, three days before, by a body of American troops, who relieved Canales of the city, and left him to use his force in defending the fortifications.

Escobedo indignantly complains of the action of General Sedgwick. He expects re-enforcements, when he will resume the attack. Meanwhile, the American flag floats within the besieged defences.

SECOND DESPATCH.

CINCINNATI, *December 5.*

The following is the full despatch to the Commercial:

The city of Matamoras was surrendered to General Sedgwick, commanding the United States forces on the Rio Grande, on the evening of the 24th instant. Colonel J. G. Perkins, of the nineteenth United States colored infantry, was

placed in command. One hundred and eighteen men of the fourth cavalry crossed over and occupied the city on that day.

Colonel Canales made an official statement to General Sedgwick that, owing to his inability to pay his troops, he could no longer correct them, whereupon Sedgwick immediately demanded the surrender of the place, which was granted.

The following were the terms: First, Colonel Canales shall place Matamoras under the orders of the commander of the United States forces. Second, the latter guarantees to Canales and his forces their liberty and secures the safety of their interests. Third, the persons and interests of all the inhabitants of Matamoras are to be respected, no matter to what nationality they belong. Fourth, the forces of Canales are to maintain their actual position. Fifth, no forces shall enter the place except those of the United States.

It will be seen that, under the agreement, General Sedgwick pledges himself that the forces of Escobedo, now besieging the city, shall not enter therein, and that the forces of Canales shall remain within the fortifications.

On Sunday morning, the 25th, Colonel Perkins issued the following order, which was posted about the streets:

[General Order No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES FORCES,
Matamoras, November 24, 1866.

According to the orders which the undersigned has received, he takes command of this city in the name of the United States. The persons belonging to my staff are the following: Lieutenant J. S. Patterson, assistant adjutant general; W. T. Larkin, provost marshal, who shall be obeyed and respected as such.

M. G. PERKINS,
Commander United States Forces.

A body of colored troops passed over Saturday night. During Sunday a pontoon bridge was laid at the ferry-way.

On Sunday evening, through the instrumentality of General Sedgwick, an interview was arranged between Canales and Escobedo, for the purpose of settling existing difficulties. Much bickering and recrimination ensued, and nothing was accomplished.

Escobedo announced his intention to attack the city at once. Monday, the 26th, passed in quiet. Colonel Perkins having been taken sick, Brevet Colonel A. M. Randall, company I, first artillery, was placed in command, and the American troops occupied the plaza, while Colonel Canales remained within the fortifications.

The attack began at 5 o'clock a. m. of the 27th. Escobedo opened his attack, the American flag meanwhile floating from the Government House. A feint was made by Cortinas on the south side of the city, while the main attack was made on the north side. Brisk firing continued up to 7 o'clock, but the attack was repulsed at every point. The American force in the city preserved peace and guarded the ferry, practically acting as provost guard.

Escobedo, who is endeavoring to enforce the authority of Juarez, attributes his defeat to the moral effect of the presence of the Americans, which he considered increased the strength of Canales threefold. He claims that orders were forwarded to General Sedgwick from Washington to afford him all the assistance which he might require in sustaining the authority of Juarez, and that, instead of doing it, he has assisted Canales, who is in open rebellion.

Escobedo's loss in killed and wounded, captured and deserted, foots up seven hundred and fourteen men.

During the fight on Tuesday morning Colonel Randall sent a message, under flag of truce, to Escobedo, informing him that the United States forces held the place, and directing that in no case should his forces advance beyond the forti-

fications without communicating with him (Randall.) Escobedo responded that he should be guided by circumstances; that the American commander had promised him to withdraw all his troops, save fifty men; and that he had broken his promise by retaining three hundred men in the place. Randall, who had received orders in no case to fire on Escobedo's men, immediately made arrangements to withdraw with the army in case he should be attacked. Battery I, of the first artillery, was stationed on the American bank to cover the troops, if for any reason they should have to fall back.

The following is a memorandum of the agreement entered into between Sedgwick and Escobedo prior to the attack:

First. General Sedgwick assures General Escobedo of the continued friendship of the United States government towards himself and the liberal government.

Second. The American commander considers himself as morally holding the city of Matamoras, under the terms of Canales's surrender of that place to him; but it is for no hostile purpose, as regards the force commanded by General Escobedo, but to protect the lives and property of American citizens and others of foreign nationality.

Third. That the American commander will withdraw the armed forces in case an attack is made, with the exception of fifty men and two officers, who will report their presence to General Escobedo should he capture the city.

Fourth. That the United States forces shall hold Santa Cruz and the ferry, and that no armed men shall cross to the American shore. This agreement had not been made known to Colonel Randall when he sent out the flag of truce.

RUMORS OF AN ATTACK ON BROWNSVILLE

by Cortinas, were rife on Tuesday, the 27th, and two hundred citizens were enrolled for defence; they were armed by the United States authorities. It proved nothing but a scare. On Wednesday this force was retained under arms to keep down any outbreak on the part of the Mexican population, as such was threatened.

The occupancy of Matamoras by the Americans caused the most bitter feeling among the people, and prominent citizens are accused of exciting the lower orders to an attack on the troops. General Sedgwick's course is regarded as incomprehensible. He seems at first to have determined to take possession of and hold the city, with a view of eventually turning it over to Escobedo, and to have subsequently changed his mind and held it for the purpose of protecting American and other foreign citizens, while Canales and Escobedo were fighting over the fortifications.

His position rids Canales of the necessity of taking care of the city and of protecting the ferry. The impression among his troops was that the American forces were in the city to assist them if necessary.

Escobedo announces his intention to renew the attack at an early date. Sedgwick has written to him stating that he desired his success, and would do what he could to assist him. Escobedo returned a very bitter response.

General Sedgwick, apparently realizing the effect of his act, is doing what he can to remedy it. All supplies for Canales from this side have been stopped, and all the forces have been withdrawn, save a company of colored troops.

The steamer has just arrived from New Orleans and returns at once. It brought despatches to General Sedgwick, on receipt of which, orders were issued for the withdrawal of the troops from Matamoras.

Advices received here from the city of Mexico say that Mejia left that city October 2, with orders to march on Matamoras with all speed. Another report says the liberal force under Queviro, Narajano, and others were completely routed at the Hacienda de los Bocas, near San Luis Potosi. Quiroga left the

main army with one thousand cavalry, and marched upon Monterey, which had been left without defence.

BROWNSVILLE, *December* 1, 1866.

Upon the demand of General Sedgwick, the city of Matamoras, with the fortifications and troops, were surrendered to the United States last evening. The troops are to be treated as prisoners of war of the United States. Their lives and property are fully guaranteed. The city will be turned over to Escobedo. He is reported in possession.

[By telegraph to the New York Tribune, December 6, 1866.]

AMERICAN VIOLATION OF NEUTRALITY—GENERAL SEDGWICK'S OCCUPATION OF MATAMORAS—HE SUSTAINS CANALES—ESCOBEDO'S ATTACK ON THE CITY.

WASHINGTON, *December* 5.

The following despatch has just been received at this bureau from the Tribune bureau at Brownsville:

BROWNSVILLE, *November* 30.

American neutrality on the Mexican border has again been sacrificed, but this time, instead of on the side of Juarez and justice, as under gallant, but too impetuous Weitzel, it has been prostituted to serve a rebel and mutineer, as Servanda Canales, the usurper of Matamoras, is to our government as much an outlaw as Mejia, the imperialist. The former lacks the personal claims that entitled the gentlemanly commander and sober representative of Maximilian to respect and consideration. The mistake of General Sedgwick, therefore, in interfering in favor of Canales, is both a diplomatic and moral blunder. On Saturday, the 24th instant, Escobedo, with about 2,700 men, being expected to attack Matamoras, Canales expressed a desire to surrender the place to Colonel Sedgwick, alleging, as his excuse, that he could not control his own command, which, he said, unless restrained, would resort to pillage. His request and reasons for this having been stated in writing, General Sedgwick responded by immediately crossing a detachment of the 4th cavalry and the 19th United States colored infantry, the former under Brevet Colonel McIntyre and the latter under Colonel Perkins. Colonel Perkins, with his colored troops, took station at Santa Cruz, which is at the ferry and about two miles from the city. McIntyre went into town and the next Sunday morning published an order assuming command of the surrendered city by virtue of rank, forbidding any but United States soldiers to carry arms, forbidding soldiers to pass or repass without authority, and requiring foreign citizens to register themselves at their several consulates, and to pass goods, if subject to pass, from headquarters of the American occupation. This order was countermanded and taken down by Colonel Perkins, sustained by General Sedgwick. Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Randall, 1st United States artillery, soon after succeeded McIntyre in command.

Thus, while the city appeared nominally surrendered to the Americans, not only were Canales's troops permitted to retain their arms, but left free to occupy in full force the fortifications against which Escobedo was to move. Late Sunday evening a meeting between Escobedo and Canales was arranged by Brevet Brigadier General Sedgwick, to the end of an amicable settlement, which, of course, was impossible, Escobedo, justly offended at the new attitude of affairs and the moderate support rendered by Americans to the cause of mutiny, refusing to accept anything less than unconditional surrender for Canales, at the same time demanding the withdrawal of the United States troops except 50

men, to remain for the protection of American interests, which demand was agreed to by General Sedgwick, but he failed to comply with it. Instead of 50, 300 Americans were retained in the city, for which General Sedgwick's precarious excuse is that it subsequently appeared the additional number of Americans were absolutely necessary as a defence against an uprising of the citizens, so outraged by such ill-timed intervention. To an American flag of truce sent out on the morning of the attack to inquire what would be the attitude of the assailants toward the Americans, Escobedo returned a curt reply that, as the stipulations had been violated, his own course would be guided by circumstances. At 5 o'clock on Tuesday morning, Escobedo attacked in full force, with about 2,700 infantry and artillery. The attack was begun upon the left, the east or lower side of the city, by Cortinas, who was repulsed; next at Fort Monterey, at the back of the city, on the Monterey road. General Lonneganega assaulted, but his bridge prepared for the trench proving too short, in the delay ensuing, the point of attack was re-enforced and rescued. The final assault upon the usurper, on the upper or west side of the city by the cazadores and two squadrons of cavalry under Colonel Flores, was also successfully repelled, by the ill-timed intermeddling of Americans, Canales being enabled to swing his whole force from side to side as needed, without fear of a distracted rear.

The following, from the Rauchero of the 29th, is represented to be Escobedo's general order extraordinary:

GENERAL ORDER FOR THE NIGHT OF THE 26TH OF NOVEMBER AND THE MORNING OF THE 27TH.

The general in command orders that to-morrow Matamoras be attacked by the forces under his command. For this the following columns will form, to which there will be given suitable positions: The first column shall attack Fort Freeport, and will be commanded by Colonel Alonzo Flores, and it will be composed of the battalion of Cazabores and the squadrons of Fernandez, Garcia, and Perez Villareal. The second column shall attack Fort Monterey. It will be commanded by General Lorenzo Viga, and will be composed of the Coahuila battalion, a company of the Foreign Legion, and free corps of the frontier. The distance between these columns will be covered by the corps of explorers, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Ruperto Martinez. General Sosternes Rocha will have chief command of this line of attack. The reserve will be formed of one column of infantry and two of cavalry. On their flanks, the first will be composed of the battalion of sappers and miners, first Nuevo Leon, under command of General Albino Espinoza and his subordinates, composed of the bodies which form the light cavalry brigade, under command of their chief, Colonel Adolfo Garza. The artillery will give three pieces for the first column of attack, six for the second, and establish its respective parks in convenient positions. The train general will situate himself according to instructions of the provost. The Tamaulipas brigade, commanded by General Juan N. Cortinas, will attack the fortifications of the line which to-day covers and comprises from Fort San Fernando to the Rio Grande, by the oriental part of the city. The point or points which ought to be attacked is left to his discretion, but on his most strict responsibility he is ordered to commence attack as soon as the line which attacks west of the city opens artillery. He is also ordered, within half an hour of the broken fire, to execute the assault on the fortifications which he attacks. General Cortinas will make a boundary in order to take possession of the enemy's first fortified line quickly, without continuing the attack to the interior of the city, till headquarters give him proper instructions, in order to avoid a meeting of his column and the columns of attack. General Cortinas will be careful to give quick notice to headquarters as soon as he will have taken possession of

the enemy's first fortified line, and hold it at all hazards. The forces which attack the place will have for watchword, "Oajaca," and for the countersign, "Durango," and they will carry for distinction a green leaf of any kind of plant. The troops will immediately prepare themselves to march to their respective positions. At the first, order will be given by General Cortinas to the commanding generals, chief officers and soldiers who compose the forces which go to attack Matamoras, that they will be strict and active in discharge of duties, which are more important than ever to free themselves. The aforesaid general in command is convinced that each and every one of the citizens who make up the forces with whose command he is honored understands very well the object of the affair which to-day is confided to their valor and military skill. It is as important and glorious as if it treated of some national independence, which is the principal object of endeavors of all Mexicans.

HEADQUARTERS, front of Matamoras.

By order of the general in command :

FELIPE BERRIOZABAL,
Adjutant General.

Escobedo's loss is rumored to be about four hundred. His right bower, General Espinosa, lies mortally wounded, shot through both thighs, a prisoner in Matamoras. This gallant young chieftain, a native of San Luis Potosi, already has no less than a dozen scars. General Sezvando Canales, youngest brother of M. Canales, was killed, and another brother, Tristane, seriously wounded.

The American flag is reported by Brownsville papers of the 29th to be still floating over Matamoras, supported by a garrison of about fifty men. Canales, emboldened by success and backing, still holds out, and, doubtless to the increased irritation of Escobedo, condescends to offer an arrangement for peace. Meanwhile, the American commander and usurper in Mexico has an elephant on hand of most egregious proportions. It is fair to state that Brevet Brigadier General Sedgwick is a young man, and, doubtless unduly influenced by representations from interested parties in Matamoras, has partly himself acted in good faith. Canales's adjutant general (Major Foster) is a confederate—a New Yorker—who is said to have remarked of the American flag raised over Matamoras that he had fled 2,000 miles in vain to escape its shadow.

BROWNSVILLE, *November* 30.

Tuesday's struggle lasted two hours. A pontoon was laid across the river near the ferry on Sunday, and Colonel Randall, sensitive of his ticklish position, had his two batteries drawn up on the American side in readiness to cross. A regiment of volunteer militia was raised for the defense of Browsville, and was commanded by the notorious fillibuster and confederate, Colonel Ford.

It is said that Marshall, the new American agent, successor to Mr. Avery, is now in Brownsville, afraid to return to his office, such is the danger from the loose soldiery of Canales and from citizens enraged at American intervention, who cry on the streets "Death to the Gringos!" Escobedo, it is understood, as soon as re-enforced by Trevino, will renew the attack, probably this week; but the hope of his troops must again be compassed by the prospect of the flag of a friend strangely supporting the foe.

The Tribune is indebted to Mr. Sterling, of New York City, who courteously takes charge of these despatches to telegraph office, Galveston.

No. 172.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 17, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 13th of December, in which you allude to a late proceeding of General Sedgwick, in taking possession of Matamoras and holding it for a few hours. I have to inform you in reply, that the proceeding of General Sedgwick was not only without authority from this government, but is understood by this department to have been in violation of the orders of his military superiors; that as soon as it came to their knowledge the proceeding was disallowed and countermanded, and that General Sedgwick was thereupon suspended from command and subjected to discipline. I am unable to write with precision upon the subject for want of full information; but I think there is sufficient ground for believing that General Sedgwick's error was committed under pressing importunities from persons residing in Matamoras, amenable to the government of Mexico, and that his indiscreet proceeding was regarded by him as favorable to that government, instead of being injurious to it, or likely to give offence.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you my assurances of the highest consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Señor DON MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 17.

EVACUATION OF MEXICO BY THE FRENCH.

List of papers.

173. Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward,.....May 16, 1866.
174. Same to same,.....May 31, 1866.
175. Mr. Hay to Mr. Seward.....August 10, 1866.
176. Mr. Seward to the Marquis de Montholon.....August 16, 1866.
177. Mr. Hay to Mr. Seward.....August 17, 1866.
178. Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.....August 24, 1866.
179. Same to same.....October 8, 1866.
180. Same to same.....Nov. 9, 1866.
181. Mr. Seward to Mr. Stanton.....Nov. 23, 1866.
182. Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell,.....Nov. 23, 1866.
183. Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward.....Nov. 30, 1866.

No. 173.

Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward.

No. 320.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, May 16, 1865.

SIR: I translate from La France, of last evening, the following announcement:

"The embarcation of troops of Austrian volunteers for Mexico has been countermanded. Those enlisted have been discharged, and the majority of them have been enrolled in the army of the north."

I suppose I may consider this paragraph, in a semi-official paper, as practi-

cally answering the inquiry which I addressed to the minister of foreign affairs on Thursday last, and as finally disposing of what threatened to become an unpleasant complication.

Apropos of our relations with Mexico, and more especially of the latest phase of them, I invite your attention to the annexed extracts from the Memorial Diplomatique, semi-official, and from the Debats, mild opposition.

General Almonte, who was appointed to replace Mr. Hidalgo at this court as the representative of Mexico, has arrived.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN BIGELOW.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington.

[Enclosure No. 1.—From the Memorial Diplomatique, May 13.]

According to an American letter published in the Times, the minister of the United States at Paris recently suggested to the cabinet of the Tuilleries that, for the purpose of arresting the military reprisals in Mexico, the Juarez government should be informed of the limit within which the French army of occupation should be withdrawn. Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys delivered this overture for the reason that the French government had no means of communication with Juarez. At length Mr. Bigelow offered for this purpose to the cabinet of the Tuilleries the good offices of his government, near which is accredited the Juarist agent, Mr. Romero.

It appears, from our information, that what there may be of truth in this story relates to the steps formerly taken by the federal cabinet to induce France to demand from the Mexican government the repeal of certain decrees concerning the Juarist brigandage. These steps, and the reception which they met with from the minister of foreign affairs of France all this is found at length in the Livie Jaune of 1866; and we believe that no later incident could have changed in this regard the rule of conduct of the imperial government.

[Enclosure No. 2.—From the Memorial Diplomatique, May 13.]

According to the information which reaches us from Vienna, the imperial government has had no difficulty in convincing Mr. Motley that Austria has no intention to send troops to Mexico to replace; that the volunteers in question cannot be considered as Austrian soldiers, as it is of their own accord that, after having fulfilled their military obligations in their own country, they enlist in the service of the emperor Maximilian to form an integral portion of the Mexican army.

The proof that this incident seems to have been settled in a satisfactory manner is, that the embarcation of one thousand Austrian volunteers was to take place the 10th of May instant, at Trieste, where, since the 7th, the Tampico has been lying at anchor—a vessel of the Transatlantic Company, on board of which they were to be transported to Vera Cruz.

[Enclosure No. 3.—From the Journal des Debats, May 14, 1866.]

We yesterday called attention to the despatches of Mr. Seward to the minister of the United States at Vienna, in which the American Secretary of State protests against the sending of Austrian volunteers to Mexico, in terms whose earnestness every one can appreciate. The Constitutionnel thinks it can an-

nounce this morning that all difficulties are removed in the matter, and that the explanations given by the Vienna cabinet have fully satisfied the minister of the United States, so that a first detachment of 1,000 volunteers was to embark on the 10th of May at Trieste, for Mexico. To tell the truth, the Constitutionnel knows nothing of these facts of itself, but gets them from the Memorial Diplomatique, in which, for our part, we are far from having absolute confidence. It may be, after all, that Austria has not thought proper to pay attention to the protest from Washington, although she has at this moment affairs enough on hand not to seek for new ones. We shall soon know if it is true that one corps of volunteers set out three days ago for Vera Cruz, on board the Tampico; but even if this fact were exact, it would not be enough to prove that an understanding in regard to this question of volunteers exists at present between Austria and the United States. The very categoric language of Mr. Seward permits us to doubt this. We shall wait, therefore, until the text of the arrangements concluded between the two governments is made known to us before we believe it, by the Constitutionnel's leave, which indorses statements of which it has no proof except the assertion of the Memorial Diplomatique, which are always to be received with caution.

No. 174.

Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward.

No. 328.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, May 31, 1866.

SIR: I have your despatch, No. 459, marked "confidential," and had proposed to discuss its contents to-day with the minister of foreign affairs. His excellency, however, had received a summons to the palace, which compelled him to terminate his reception of the diplomatic corps abruptly. He remarked, with a smile, as I entered, that he knew what I came for—that I had a harsh message to him. "Am I not right?" he asked. I told him that I had been instructed, as he was aware, it seemed, to acquaint him with the disquiet which certain reports, in regard to the transport of fresh troops from different quarters of the world to Mexico, had occasioned in the United States, and I expressed my fear that these reports, unless met promptly by some satisfactory assurances, might develop discussion upon another theatre, imperfectly informed of the actual situation and of the dispositions of the imperial government, thereby aggravating the difficulties with which both governments already had to contend. I then said, that as he was called elsewhere, I would wait upon him at any other more convenient hour that he would name. He proposed that I should call again on Saturday at 1½ p. m.; meantime he wished me to be assured, as he had assured me on several previous occasions, that the troops reported to have sailed for Vera Cruz were to replace others whose terms of service had expired, and in numbers less rather than more than were there before. He believed, also, that the orders for their shipment were given before the proposed recall of the army was announced. Upon all these points he expected to have more precise information from the minister of war to give me on Saturday. As I was going out his excellency repeated what he has often said, that they were but too anxious to withdraw their troops from Mexico; that they would be withdrawn certainly not later, but probably sooner, than the time proposed.

I then took my leave without alluding to the other subjects about which I was specially instructed to confer with him.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN BIGELOW.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *Secretary of State.*

No. 175.

Mr. Hay to Mr. Seward.

No. 357.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, August 10, 1866.

SIR: There have recently appeared paragraphs in the journals of Paris, announcing the contemplated departure from Mexico of the wife of the Archduke Maximilian. These naturally created some degree of discussion and comment generally unfavorable to the imperial cause in Mexico. To check this injurious line of remark, the Memorial Diplomatique, the organ of the so-called Mexican empire in Paris, in its last issue published the following formal announcement:

"We are authorized to contradict, in the most formal manner, the rumor that the empress of Mexico is on her way to Europe.

"The same report was circulated at the time of her majesty's departure for Yucatan, and it is known that the emperor Maximilian, on a solemn occasion, denounced as an infamous calumny the mere supposition that either he or his august spouse could ever be false to their duty."

The Pays, a journal in the same interest, published on the following day this additional denial of the same rumor:

"A journal, tormented with the desire of producing sensation news, has mentioned in reference to Mexico a completely absurd rumor, started at Paris, by no one knows whom, some days ago.

"There is not one word of truth or reason in the assertion."

Yesterday, to the confusion of these positive and indignant friends, the lady in question arrived in Paris, and alighted at the Grand Hotel. She was immediately waited upon by Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys, who passed in her company the greater part of the afternoon.

To-day the morning papers publish the following extract from the official journal of Mexico, of the 8th July:

"The empress leaves for Europe, where she is going to treat of the affairs of Mexico, and regulate different international matters. This mission, accepted by our sovereign with real patriotism, is the greatest proof of abnegation that the emperor could offer to his new country. We give this intelligence that the public may know the real object of her majesty's absence."

The princess is accompanied by Mr. Martin Castillo, minister of foreign affairs, the Comte del Valle, her grand chamberlain, the Comte de Bouchelles, and other officers and attendants.

The most unfavorable conclusions are deduced from this visit, especially by those who are so unfortunate as to hold large amounts of the Mexican loan. It is generally regarded as a final effort to obtain by personal influence and solicitation that indispensable aid for the Mexican empire which has been refused to its accredited diplomatic representative.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington.

No. 176.

Mr. Seward to the Marquis de Montholon.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 16, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to call your attention to two orders or decrees which purport to have been made on the 26th of July last, by Prince Maximilian, who

claims to be emperor in Mexico, in which he declares that he has committed the direction of the department of war in that country to General Osmont, chief of the staff of the French expeditionary corps; and that he has committed the direction of the department of the treasury to Mr. Friant, intendant-in-chief of the same corps.

The President thinks it proper that the Emperor of France should be informed that the assumption of administrative functions at this time by the aforenamed officers of the French expeditionary corps under the authority of the Prince Maximilian is not unlikely to be injurious to good relations between the United States and France, because it is liable to be regarded by the Congress and people of the United States as indicating a course of proceeding on the part of France incongruous with the engagement which has been made for the withdrawal of the French expeditionary corps from that country.

Accept, sir, a renewed assurance of my high consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

MARQUIS DE MONTHOLON, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Translation—with note of August 16, to M. Montholon.]

Maximilian, Emperor of Mexico.

In consideration of the merits, combined with the qualifications of General Osmont, chief of the staff of the expeditionary corps, we have thought proper to commit to him the direction of the department of war.

Given at Mexico this 26th July, 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

By the Emperor:

JOSÉ SALAZAR YLARREQUI,
Minister of the Interior.

Maximilian, Emperor of Mexico.

In consideration of the merits, combined with the qualifications of Mr. Friant, intendant-in-chief of the expeditionary corps, we have thought proper to commit to him the direction of the department of the treasury.

Given at Mexico the 26th July, 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

By the Emperor:

JOSÉ SALAZAR YLARREQUI,
Minister of the Interior.

No. 177.

Mr. Hay to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

No. 358.] *Paris, August* 17, 1866.

SIR: According to a suggestion of Mr. Bigelow, who is spending some days with his family at Ems, I called yesterday upon the minister of foreign affairs. I spoke to his excellency of the reports which were currently published in the journals of Paris in reference to the visit of the Princess Charlotte to France—

these reports stating that the stay of Maximilian in Mexico had become conditional upon a modification of the course of action adopted by the French government, and announced in his excellency's recent communications to the Marquis de Montholon and to Mr. Bigelow; several journals further intimating that the princess had succeeded in obtaining a change of that programme. I asked the minister if there had been any modification, or if there were any intended of the policy of the Emperor's government towards Mexico, heretofore declared.

He replied, "there had been no modification of our policy in that matter, and there is to be none. What we announced our intention to do we will do. Of course," he added, "we received the empress with courtesy and cordiality, but the plan heretofore determined upon by the Emperor's government, will be executed in the way we announced."

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I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

No. 178.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.

No. 516.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 24, 1866.

SIR: I transmit herewith for your information copies of the President's proclamation of the 17th instant, declaring null and void a decree of Prince Maximilian, closing certain ports in Mexico.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

JOHN BIGELOW, Esq., *&c., &c., &c.*

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas a war is existing in the republic of Mexico, aggravated by foreign military intervention; and whereas the United States, in accordance with their settled habits and policy, are a neutral power in regard to the war which thus affects the republic of Mexico; and whereas it has become known that one of the belligerents in the said war, namely, the Prince Maximilian, who asserts himself to be emperor in Mexico, has issued a decree in regard to the port of Matamoras, and other Mexican ports which are in the occupation and possession of another of the said belligerents, namely, the United States of Mexico, which decree is in the following words:

"The port of Matamoras and all those of the northern frontier which have withdrawn from their obedience to the government are closed to foreign and coasting traffic during such time as the empire of the law shall not be therein reinstated.

"ART. 2. Merchandise proceeding from the said ports, on arriving at any other where the excise of the empire is collected, shall pay the duties on importation, introduction, and consumption; and on satisfactory proof of contravention shall be irremissibly confiscated. Our minister of the treasury is charged with the punctual execution of this decree.

"Given at Mexico, the 9th of July, 1866."

And whereas the decree thus recited, by declaring a belligerent blockade

unsupported by competent military or naval force, is in violation of the neutral rights of the United States, as defined by the law of nations, as well as of the treaties existing between the United States of America and the aforesaid United States of Mexico:

Now, therefore, I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim and declare that the aforesaid decree is held, and will be held, by the United States to be absolutely null and void, as against the government and citizens of the United States, and that any attempt which shall be made to enforce the same against the government or the citizens of the United States will be disallowed.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, the seventeenth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and of the independence of the United States of America the ninety-first.

[SEAL.] ANDREW JOHNSON.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *Secretary of State.*

No. 179.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.

[Extract.]

No. 535.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 8, 1866.

SIR: * * * * But the point you mention was not distinctly presented to me, namely, what this government would think of the withdrawal of the whole French army in the coming year, instead of its being withdrawn in three semi-annual detachments, commencing next November. What I have said is this: that the arrangement proposed by the emperor for a withdrawal of the troops in three detachments, beginning in November next, was in itself quite likely to be forgotten here, in the political excitement which attends all Mexican questions, before the execution of the agreement should begin. That frequent incidents of various kinds, presented by the press in France and in Mexico as indicating a disposition on the part of the emperor to depart from that engagement, have unavoidably produced a wide popular mistrust of even the emperor's sincerity in making the engagement, and of his good faith in fulfilling it. That by circumstances of this character this department was kept continually under an apparent necessity of protesting against proceedings which were thus weakening public confidence in its very just and well-defined expectations. That the government, on the contrary, relies with implicit confidence upon the fulfilment of the emperor's engagement, at least, to the letter; and it has even expected that, overlooking the letter, it would be fulfilled with an earnestness of spirit which would hasten instead of retard the evacuation of the French forces in Mexico.

At present, however, we are waiting for the beginning of the evacuation. When that beginning shall have come, the government will cheerfully hear suggestions from any quarter calculated to reassure the restoration of tranquillity, peace, and constitutional domestic government in Mexico; but until we shall be able to refer to such a beginning any proceedings towards negotiation would only tend to confound public opinion in the United States, and to render the situation of Mexico more complicated.

Of course it is unnecessary to inform you that the speculations which are indulged in by a portion of the public press, concerning relations supposed to be established between this department and General Santa Anna, are without foun dation.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

JOHN BIGELOW, Esq., *&c., &c., &c., Paris.*

No. 180.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.

No. 545.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 9, 1866.

SIR: I have been unable until this moment to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of October 12, No. 374.

The President is pleased with the liberal and friendly disposition which is manifested by the Marquis de Moustier in regard to our international questions.

Mr. Campbell proceeds to-morrow, with Lieutenant General Sherman, to Mexico, or its vicinity. I give you a copy of the instructions of this department to our new out-going minister to Mexico. It is not intended that they shall be formally or officially communicated to the French government; but, at the same time, we affect no secrecy on the occasion. You may, therefore, make such use of them as you find necessary or expedient in making known the policy of this government as affected by the anticipated retirement of the French military forces from that country.

I thank you for the information you have given me concerning domestic questions of interest in the French empire.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

JOHN BIGELOW, Esq., *&c., &c., &c., Paris.*

No. 181.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Stanton.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 23, 1866.

SIR: I herewith submit a correspondence, which, under the direction of the President, has taken place between this department and the government of France, and also a copy of instructions relative to the matters discussed, which have been given to Mr. Campbell, minister plenipotentiary of the United States at Mexico. It is submitted for your consideration, whether in this new emergency any special instructions are necessary for the government of the army of observation of the United States to prevent premature disturbance of the peace while maintaining the safety of the United States.

I have the honor, &c.,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War.*

No. 182.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.

No. 4] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 23, 1866.

SIR: I give you a copy of a despatch which has just been received from Mr. Bigelow, from which you will learn, as we have learned with surprise, that the French government has postponed its stipulated withdrawal of a detachment from Mexico in November, with a purpose, as is avowed, of withdrawing the whole of the forces at some time next spring. I give you also a copy of my reply thereto, announcing that this resolution of the French government is unsatisfactory to the President.

The same papers will inform you that the President does not think it necessary or advisable to modify your instructions.

We are not without confidence in anticipating a satisfactory resolution upon the subject from France.

I am, &c., &c.,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Mr. CAMPBELL.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

No. 384.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, November 8, 1866.

SIR: The minister of foreign affairs informed me on Thursday last, in reply to a question which certain newspaper rumors prompted me to address him, that it was the purpose of the Emperor to withdraw all his troops from Mexico in the spring, but none before that time. I expressed my surprise and regret at this determination, so distinctly in conflict with the pledges given by his excellency's predecessor, Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys, both to you, through the Marquis de Montholon, and also to myself personally. The marquis assigned considerations of a purely military character, overlooking, or underestimating, as it seemed to me, the importance which this change might possibly have upon the relations of France with the United States. My first impulse was to send him a note on the following day, asking for a formal statement of the Emperor's motives of disregarding the stipulations of his foreign minister for a withdrawal of one detachment of his Mexican army during the current month of November. I concluded, however, that it would be more satisfactory to the President that I should see the Emperor himself upon the subject. I accordingly waited upon his Majesty yesterday, at St. Cloud, repeated to him what the Marquis de Moustier had told me, and desired to know what, if anything, could be done by me to anticipate and prevent the discontent which I felt persuaded would be experienced by my country-people, if they receive this intelligence without any explanation. I referred to the early meeting of Congress, when any change in our relations either with France or Mexico would be likely to come under discussion, and my fear that his Majesty's reasons for postponing the repatriation of the first detachment of his troops might be attributed to motives which our people would be disposed to resent.

The Emperor said that it was true that he had concluded to postpone the recall of any of his troops until spring; but that in doing so, he had been influenced by entirely military considerations. At the time he gave the order, the successors of the dissidents, supported as they were by large re-enforcements from the United States, seemed to render any reduction of his force there perilous to those who remained behind.

He accordingly sent a telegraph to Marshal Bazaine, who had already embarked a regiment, (eighty-first, I think he said,) but which had fortunately been pre-

vented from sailing by unfavorable winds, directing him to embark no troops until all were ready to come. This despatch, his Majesty said, was not sent in cipher, that no secret might be made of its tenor in the United States. The troops were then disembarked, and returned to Orizaba. His Majesty went on to say that he sent General Castelnau to Mexico about the same time, charged to inform Maximilian that France could not give him another cent of money nor another man; if he thought he could sustain himself there alone, France would not withdraw her troops faster than had been stipulated for by Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys, should such be his desire; but if, on the other hand, he was disposed to abdicate, which was the course his Majesty counselled him to take, General Castelnau was charged to find some government with which to treat for the protection of French interests, and to bring all the army home in the spring.

I asked his Majesty if the President of the United States had been notified of this, or if anything had been done to prepare his mind for the change in his Majesty's policy. He said that he did not know; that M. de Moustier ought to have done so; that, as these events occurred during the interim of a change in the ministry of foreign affairs, it was possible that it had been neglected, though his telegram to Marshal Bazaine was purposely sent in a way to show that there was nothing in his plans to disguise.

I remarked that my government was constantly under the necessity of protesting against acts done in the name of his Majesty, and the effect of such protests was always to weaken public confidence in the representations which the government had felt itself authorized to make in regard to his Majesty's intentions. I then explained to him again briefly the grave inconveniences liable to result from any unexplained departure from the stipulations already given in his Majesty's name to the world. His Majesty replied that we had the telegraph now, and that any misunderstanding of that sort might be readily rectified.

His Majesty appeared to realize the importance of having an understanding with the President upon the subject, and I left with the impression that he intended to occupy himself with the matter at once.

There is but one sentiment here about the determination of France to wash her hands of Mexico as soon as possible. Nor have I any doubt that the Emperor is acting in entire good faith towards us; but I did not feel sure that the change in his plans upon which I have been commenting would receive so favorable an interpretation in the United States. In view of recent successes gained by the imperialists in Mexico, and in view of the somewhat turbulent state of our politics at home, I feared that the course of the Emperor might possibly awaken suspicions in the United States which might seriously prejudice the relations of the two countries. To prevent such a calamity, if possible, I thought it my duty to take the precautions of which I have here rendered you an account.

The fact which the Emperor admitted in this conversation, that he had advised Maximilian to abdicate, has prepared me to expect every day the announcement of his abdication, for such advice, in Maximilian's dependent condition, is almost equivalent to an order. That it would be so regarded is, I think, the expectation of the Emperor, and ample preparations for the early repatriation of all the troops have, I believe, already been made by the ministers of war and marine. The Emperor stated that he expected to know the final result of Castlenau's mission towards the end of this month.

A telegram has appeared in the London Star and Post, quoting a report circulating in New York on the 6th, that Maximilian had abdicated. As despatches received the 7th made no reference to this report, I presume it was, at least, premature.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN BIGELOW.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

No. 550.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 23, 1866.

SIR: Your despatch of the 8th of November, No. 384, in regard to Mexico, is received.

Your proceedings in your interview with M. Moustier, and also your proceedings in your interview with the Emperor, are entirely approved. Say to M. Moustier that this government is surprised and affected with deep concern by the announcement, now made for the first time, that the promised recall of one detachment of the French troops from Mexico in November current has been postponed by the Emperor. The embarrassment thus produced is immeasurably increased by the circumstance that this proceeding of the Emperor has been taken without conference with, and even without notice to, the United States. The government has not in any way afforded re-enforcements to the Mexicans, as the Emperor seems to assume, and it has known nothing at all of his countermanding instructions to Marshal Bazaine, of which the Emperor speaks. We consult only official communications to ascertain the purposes and resolutions of France, as we make our own purposes and resolutions known only in the same manner when she is concerned.

I am not prepared to say, and it is now unnecessary to discuss, whether the President could or could not have agreed to the Emperor's proposed delay if he had been seasonably consulted, and if the proposition had been then put, as the proceeding is now, upon the ground of military considerations alone, and if it had been marked with the customary manifestation of regard to the interests and feelings of the United States. But the Emperor's decision to modify the existing arrangement without any understanding with the United States, so as to leave the whole French army in Mexico for the present instead of withdrawing one detachment in November current, as promised, is now found in every way inconvenient and exceptionable. We cannot acquiesce—

First. Because the term "next spring," as appointed for the entire evacuation, is indefinite and vague.

Second. Because we have no authority for stating to Congress and to the American people that we have now a better guarantee for the withdrawal of the whole expeditionary force in the spring than we have heretofore had for the withdrawal of a part in November.

Third. In full reliance upon at least a literal performance of the Emperor's existing agreement, we have taken measures, while facilitating the anticipated French evacuation, to co-operate with the republican government of Mexico for promoting the pacification of that country and for the early and complete restoration of the proper constitutional authority of that government. As a part of those measures, Mr. Campbell, our newly appointed minister, attended by Lieutenant General Shermun, has been sent to Mexico in order to confer with President Juarez on subjects which are deeply interesting to the United States, and of vital importance to Mexico.

Our policy and measures thus adopted in full reliance upon the anticipated beginning of the evacuation of Mexico were promptly made known to the French legation here, and doubtless you have already executed your instructions by making them known to the Emperor's government in Paris.

The Emperor will perceive that we cannot now recall Mr. Campbell, nor can we modify the instructions under which he is expected to treat, and under which he may even now be treating with the republican government of Mexico.

That government will, of course, most earnestly desire and confidently expect an early and entire discontinuation of foreign hostile occupation. You will, therefore, state to the Emperor's government that the President sincerely hopes and expects that the evacuation of Mexico will be carried into effect with

such conformity to the existing agreement as the inopportune complication which calls for this despatch shall allow. Mr. Campbell will be advised of that complication. Instructions will be issued to the United States military forces of observation to await in every case special directions from the President. This will be done with a confident expectation that the telegraph or mail may seasonably bring us a satisfactory resolution from the Emperor in reply to this note. You will assure the French government that the United States, while they seek the relief of Mexico, desire nothing more earnestly than to preserve peace and friendship with France. Nor does the President allow himself to doubt that what has been determined in France, most inauspiciously as we think, has been decided upon inadvertently, without full reflection upon the embarrassment it must produce here, and without any design to retain the French expeditionary forces in Mexico beyond the full period of eighteen months, originally stipulated for the complete evacuation.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

JOHN BIGELOW, Esq., *&c.*, *&c.*, *&c.*, *Paris.*

No. 183.

Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward.

[Private.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, November 30, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: Your telegram, dated 23d November, from Washington, was received on the 26th and 27th instant. I immediately addressed a communication to the minister of foreign affairs, who is at Compiegne, and last evening received a note acknowledging it, and saying that he reserved his reply. After a brief interview with Mr. Rouher, minister of state, this morning, at his request I sent another note to the minister of foreign affairs, requesting, in view of the urgency of the matter, an explanation of the Emperor's motives for deferring the partial evacuation of Mexico, and a statement of his plans and preparations for the execution of the stipulation of Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys, in advance of his more deliberate reply to my first communication. I hope to have that to-morrow. The government has as yet no news from Castlenau, which will be due to-night or to-morrow, neither does it know what has become of Maximilian. The papers to-day announce the occupation of Matamoras by the federals. M. Rouher assures me that the vessels are all ready and waiting a despatch from Castlenau to start for Vera Cruz, and they expect to have their whole force here by March at the latest. The minister of marine says they must leave here within fifteen days, on account of the fever.

Yours, very faithfully,

JOHN BIGELOW.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c.*, *&c.*, *&c.*

No. 18.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE UNITED STATES LEGATION TO MEXICO.

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189. Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward ..... November 9, 1866
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No. 184.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.

No. 2.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 2, 1866.

SIR: I transmit for your information a communication received at this department from Monterey, Mexico, signed by Mr. Joseph Ulrich, lately appointed consul of the United States to that city, in which is contained a petition of several citizens of the United States, merchants of Monterey, setting forth that the liberal authorities of Monterey had lately subjected them and other American citizens to forced loans, against which they ask the protection of this government. Mr. Ulrich also states that several citizens of the United States are now held to service in the Mexican army against their inclination, whose respective terms of service have expired.

These causes will necessitate your early presence at your post; and you are therefore instructed to proceed to Mexico at as early an hour as convenient, where you will at once lead your attention to the proper investigation of the complaints contained in the enclosed documents.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL, Esq., *&c., &c., &c.*,
Hamilton, Ohio.

MONTEREY, MEXICO, *August* 28, 1866.

SIR: Enclosed is a statement of grievances from a portion of the citizens of the United States resident here. The reason for its not being more generally signed is, that some declined putting their names to it for fear of being compromised with the authorities; others were not asked to sign it, as it was feared, by those who did, they would not be prudent enough to keep the matter to themselves, and yet all suffer in common with the signers to the document, and all wish redress. This letter is written to explain the lack of more signatures, and, also, to show you how precarious our condition is when so much precaution is necessary in securing our rights, and that you may see how necessary it is for our interest that no publicity should be given to the document.

I would here urge on the department the necessity of having a consul here commissioned. As matters stand I cannot act, and there are now several cases requiring the attention of the government. Eight Americans—three white and five colored men—are held to service in the army; their time is expired, as they say, and are held contrary to all law and justice, and in the absence of my commission as consul, I am, of course, unable to aid them.

Hoping these matters will receive your attention, I am yours, respectfully,

JOSEPH ULRICH.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, United States.

SIR: We, the undersigned, citizens of the United States, residents and doing business in the city of Monterey, Mexico, take this means of calling the attention of our government to our situation as regards "*forced loans*" (prestamos) now being levied on us by the liberal authorities, for the purposes of raising money for their officials and soldiers, contrary to the stipulations of the treaty between the two countries, without any regular system of taxation, and merely subject, as to amount and frequency, to the will of the chief who may temporarily be in power. That these "*prestamos*" are, in almost every case, levied upon merchants alone, and thus fall inevitably on American residents, they, mostly, being in commercial business.

That Americans, in common with all foreigners, suffer severely, as, in every case, distinctions are made between the amounts required from the native or foreign merchant in the favor of the former. We would also represent that on a recent occasion, since the departure of the French from Matamoras, a loan was ordered from the commerce of that city, which afterwards was made exceptional as to Americans, owing to the pressure brought to bear from the American side of the Rio Grande, which furnishes conclusive evidence that where these people can be operated on by a direct application of the power of our government, they will respect our rights and their treaty obligations. In view of this and the fact of our distance from any body of the United States forces, we respectfully ask that some steps be taken by our government to save us from utter ruin, in the shape of a constant drain of our means, especially now, when we have every reason to look for constant changes among the leaders here, each one of whom, as usual, on entering upon his career, considers the mercantile portion of the community as the only proper subjects for his exactions. During the French occupancy, under a despotic tyranny which regarded the rights of no one, unrecognized as it was by our government, we had nothing to hope for and submitted, but now, with the advent of the liberals, we are led to think that we can have at least the protection of our own government, having nothing to hope from any consideration these people will have for their treaty obligations, or gratitude for services or sympathy received from the United States, unless forced to do so, as in the instance recited above. So, we ask you to demand for us rights refused us as individuals; to do this, not by correspondence merely, as that will be of no avail, but by sending a special agent, a man of character and firmness, who can settle the matter at once and forever, and thus furnish a precedent here in Monterey which may be followed over the whole republic. The party sent must come with full powers to enforce his wishes, as, otherwise, his visit will be useless. These people will not listen to consuls, or agents resident here, as they are well aware how little attention is paid to reports from such officials; but a special agent on the subject of "prestamos" (and all the better if his name is identified with our army) will command their attention. We ask this as we know it to be the only means of redressing these constant outrages, and we

hope our government will think the matter of sufficient importance to receive attention, involving, as it does, the ruin of American citizens who are compelled by their business position to remain in this country, where their property is thus insecure, merely from the neglect on the part of their government heretofore to protect them. The absolute necessity of this protection will be evident, when we inform you that the penalty attached to a refusal to pay promptly these "prestamos" is confiscation of property, imprisonment, or banishment from the country. We have, therefore, no alternative, in the absence of a thorough understanding between the two governments, in relation to the matter, but to yield to their exactions, or to subject ourselves to the penalties above named.

D. D. BRAMARD.
CHARLES RUSSELL.
R. DRESEL.
JOSEPH ULRICH.
JAMES N. LANGSTROTH.
M. W. STARR, Jr.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State of the United States.

No. 185.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.

No. 3.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 20, 1866.

SIR: You are aware that a friendly and explicit arrangement exists between this government and the Emperor of France, to the effect that he will withdraw his expeditionary military forces from Mexico in three parts; the first of which shall leave Mexico in November next, the second in March next, and the third in November, 1867; and that upon the evacuation being thus completed, the French government will immediately come upon the ground of non-intervention n regard to Mexico, which is held by the United States.

Doubts have been entertained and expressed in some quarters upon the question whether the French government will faithfully execute this agreement. No such doubts have been entertained by the President, who has had repeated, and even recent, assurances that the complete evacuation of Mexico by the French will be consummated at the periods mentioned, or earlier, if compatible with climatical, military, and other conditions.

There are grounds for supposing that two incidental questions have already engaged the attention of the French government, namely:

1. Whether it should not advise the departure of the Prince Maximilian for Austria to be made before the withdrawal of the French expedition.

2. Whether it would not be consistent with the climatical, military, and other conditions before mentioned to withdraw the whole expeditionary force at once, instead of retiring it in three parts, and at different periods.

No formal communication, however, upon this subject has been made by the Emperor of the French to the government of the United States. When the subject has been incidentally mentioned, this department, by direction of the President, has replied that the United States await the execution of the agreement for evacuation by the French government, at least according to its letter, while they would be gratified if that agreement could be executed with greater promptness and despatch than are stipulated.

Under these circumstances the President expects that within the next month ovember) a portion at least of the French expeditionary force will retire

from Mexico, and he thinks it not improbable that the whole expeditionary force may be withdrawn at or about the same time.

Such an event cannot fail to produce a crisis of great political interest in the republic of Mexico. It is important that you should be either within the territories of that republic, or in some place near at hand, so as to assume the exercise of your functions as minister plenipotentiary of the United States to the republic of Mexico.

What may be the proceedings of the Prince Maximilian, in the event of a partial or complete evacuation of Mexico, of course cannot now be certainly foreseen. What may be the proceedings of Mr. Juarez, the President of the republic of Mexico, in the same event, cannot now be definitely anticipated.

We are aware of the existence of several political parties in Mexico, other than those at the head of which are President Juarez and Prince Maximilian, who entertain conflicting views concerning the most expedient and proper mode of restoring peace, order, and civil government in that republic. We do not know what may be the proceedings of those parties in the event of the French evacuation.

Finally, it is impossible for us to foresee what may be the proceedings of the Mexican people in case of the happening of the events before alluded to. For these reasons it is impossible to give you specific directions for the conduct of your proceedings in the discharge of the high trust which the government of the United States has confided to you. Much must be left to your own discretion, which is to be exercised according to the view you may take of political movements as they shall disclose themselves in the future. There are, however, some principles which, as we think, may be safely laid down in regard to the policy which the government of the United States will expect you to pursue. The first of these is, that, as a representative of the United States you are accredited to the republican government of Mexico, of which Mr. Juarez is president. Your communications as such representative will be made to him, wheresoever he may be, and in no event will you officially recognize either the Prince Maximilian, who claims to be emperor, or any other person, chief, or combination, as exercising the executive authority in Mexico, without having first reported to this department, and received instructions from the President of the United States.

Secondly. Assuming that the French military and naval commanders shall be engaged in good faith in executing the agreement before mentioned for the evacuation of Mexico, the spirit of the engagement on our part in relation to that event will forbid the United States, and their representative, from obstructing or embarrassing the departure of the French.

Thirdly. What the government of the United States desire in regard to the future of Mexico is not the conquest of Mexico, or any part of it, or the aggrandizement of the United States by purchases of land or dominion, but, on the other hand, they desire to see the people of Mexico relieved from all foreign military intervention, to the end that they may resume the conduct of their own affairs under the existing republican government, or such other form of government as, being left in the enjoyment of perfect liberty, they shall determine to adopt in the exercise of their own free will, by their own act, without dictation from any foreign country, and of course without dictation from the United States.

It results, as a consequence from these principles, that you will enter into no stipulation with the French commanders, or with the Prince Maximilian, or with any other party, which shall have a tendency to counteract or oppose the administration of President Juarez, or to hinder or delay the restoration of the authority of the republic. On the other hand, it may possibly happen that the President of the republic of Mexico may desire the good offices of the United States, or even some effective proceedings on our part, to favor and advance the

pacification of a country so long distracted by foreign, combined with civil, war, and thus gain time for the re-establishment of national authority upon principles consistent with a republican and domestic system of government. It is possible, moreover, that some disposition might be made of the land and naval forces of the United States, without interfering within the jurisdiction of Mexico, or violating the laws of neutrality, which would be useful in favoring the restoration of law, order, and republican government in that country.

You are authorized to confer upon this subject with the republican government of Mexico, and its agents, and also to confer informally, if you find it necessary, with any other parties or agents, should such an exceptional conference become absolutely necessary, but not otherwise. You will by these means obtain information which will be important to this government, and such information you will convey to this department, with your suggestions and advice as to any proceedings on our part which can be adopted in conformity with the principles I have before laid down.

You will be content with thus referring any important propositions on the subject of reorganization and restoration of the republican government in Mexico as may arise to this department for the information of the President.

The general of the United States possesses already discretionary authority as to the location of the forces of the United States in the vicinity of Mexico.

His military experience will enable him to advise you concerning such questions as may arise during the transition stage of Mexico from a state of military siege by a foreign enemy to a condition of practical self-government. At the same time it will be in his power, being near the scene of action, to issue any orders which may be expedient or necessary for maintaining the obligations resting upon the United States in regard to proceedings upon the borders of Mexico. For these reasons, he has been requested and instructed by the President to proceed with you to your destination, and to act with you as an adviser recognized by this department in regard to the matters which have been herein discussed. After conferring with him, you are at liberty to proceed to the city of Chihuahua, or to such other place in Mexico as may be the residence of President Juarez; or, in your discretion, you will proceed to any other place in Mexico not held or occupied at the time of your arrival by enemies of the republic of Mexico; or you will stop at any place in the United States, or elsewhere, near the frontier or coast of Mexico, and await there a time to enter any portion of Mexico which shall hereafter be in the occupation of the republican government of Mexico.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 186.

The President to the Secretary of War.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington, D. C., October 26, 1866.

SIR: Recent advices indicate an early evacuation of Mexico by the French expeditionary forces, and that the time has arrived when our minister to Mexico should place himself in communication with that republic.

In furtherance of the objects of his mission, and as evidence of the earnest desire felt by the United States for the proper adjustment of the questions involved, I deem it of great importance that General Grant should, by his presence and advice, co-operate with our minister.

I have, therefore, to ask that you will request General Grant to proceed to some point on our Mexican frontier, most suitable and convenient for communication with our minister; or (if General Grant deems it best) to accompany him to his destination in Mexico, and to give him the aid of his advice in carrying out the instructions of the Secretary of State, a copy of which is herewith sent for the general's information.

General Grant will make report to the Secretary of War of such matters as, in his discretion, ought to be communicated to the department.

Very respectfully, yours,

ANDREW JOHNSON.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

No. 187.

The President to the Secretary of War.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington, D. C., October 30, 1866.

SIR: General Ulysses S. Grant having found it inconvenient to assume the duties specified in my letter to you of the 26th instant, you will please relieve him from the same, and assign them, in all respects, to William T. Sherman, Lieutenant General of the army of the United States. By way of guiding General Sherman in the performance of his duties, you will furnish him with a copy of your special orders to General Grant, made in compliance with my letter of the 26th instant, together with a copy of the instructions of the Secretary of State to Lewis D. Campbell, esq., therein mentioned. The Lieutenant General will proceed to the execution of his duties without delay.

Very respectfully, yours,

ANDREW JOHNSON.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

No. 188.

[Cipher telegram.]

Major General Sheridan to General Grant.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
New Orleans, Louisiana, November 8, 1866.

GENERAL: While at Galveston on the 6th, Captain McCan, of the navy, who left Tampico on the 2d, informed me that Maximilian had abdicated; that his foreign troops had substituted the French flag for the imperial, and that the French forces in Mexico were now an army of occupation.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major General U. S. A.

General U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies United States, Washington, D. C.

No. 189.

Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.

OFFICE UNITED STATES MILITARY TELEGRAPH,
Washington, D. C., November 9, 1866.

[Telegram received at War Department from New York, November 9, 1866—time 9.45 a. m.]

Hon. W. H. SEWARD, *Secretary of State:*

Arrived with General Sherman last evening. Have received instructions sent here by mail and by Plumb. I find in them no instructions as to how I am to proceed to Mexico, nor any orders placing any vessel at my disposal.

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL,
Metropolitan Hotel.

No. 190.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.

[By military telegraph.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 9, 1866.

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL,
Minister to Mexico, Metropolitan Hotel, New York.

Your telegram of this morning has been received. The United States steamer Susquehanna, Commodore James Alden, has been ordered by the Secretary of the Navy to take you, General Sherman, and your respective suites, and also Mr. Plumb, to any place in or near Mexico which you may designate. The vessel is ready and at your immediate disposal.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

No. 191.

Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.

[Confidential.]

No. 2.] UNITED STATES STEAMER SUSQUEHANNA,
Havana, November 21, 1866.

SIR: Although the facts I am about to relate may in themselves be of little importance, in connection with other information they may have a tendency to throw some further light upon the present situation of affairs in Mexico. I therefore deem it proper to communicate them.

The day after my arrival in this port I was informed by Mr. Minor, our consul general here, that an interview with me was desired by General Magruder, late of the so-called confederate army, who, after a residence of many months in Mexico, had arrived here on the 17th instant, directly from the city of Mexico and Vera Cruz. Mr. Minor also stated that he had reason to believe that General Magruder might be able to communicate to me some information of value.

I did not deem it proper to call upon General Magruder in any capacity, or to seek any information from him, yet believed that if information was volun-

tarily tendered it became my duty to receive it, from whatever quarter it might come.

On yesterday, casually meeting General Magruder at the United States consulate, he requested an interview with me, which I granted, and a lengthy conversation at once took place, relating mainly to the situation of affairs in Mexico. The substance of the information imparted by him is as follows:

He left the city of Mexico about the first of November, prior to which date Maximilian had already left the city and proceeded to Orizaba.

It was the general understanding that he had abdicated, or, at least, had in some way turned over the government to Marshal Bazaine.

Being about to leave the city of Mexico for Washington, leaving his family behind in Mexico, General Magruder called on Marshal Bazaine with the view of ascertaining the true situation of affairs, for the purpose of such provisional arrangements for them and their safety as might be necessary.

During this interview General Magruder said to Marshal Bazaine, "I presume, in the event of the abdication of Maximilian, your excellency will be the government." To which he replied, "If such should be the case, I shall only occupy the position for transient purposes."

The following day General Magruder left the city of Mexico for Vera Cruz, Maximilian then being at Orizaba.

He observed on the road down that the French were strongly fortifying various points, and especially at Puebla, Orizaba, and the passes below; but he was impressed with the belief that these works were rather designed for the safe withdrawal of the French troops than for the continued occupation of the country by them.

On his arrival at Vera Cruz he learned from reliable authority that Maximilian was about to take his departure; but had temporarily delayed doing so in consequence of the arrival in that city of Miramon and Marquez, the old leaders of the reactionary party.

On the 13th instant General Magruder was informed by the second captain of the Austrian frigate then lying in the harbor of Vera Cruz that that vessel was to take out Maximilian, and that their departure had only been delayed in consequence of the arrival of Miramon and Marquez; but that Maximilian *would certainly leave within ten days*, which would be prior to the 23d instant.

General Magruder further informed me that at the close of his interview with Marshal Bazaine, when he was about to bid him adieu, the marshal said to him, "You are about to visit the United States, general?" Reply, "Yes." "You will see the President?" Reply, "I probably shall." "If you do," said Marshal Bazaine, "deliver him this verbal message from me: The moral influence wielded by the government of the United States has destroyed this empire. Upon it, therefore, rests the obligation to see that some government be established and sustained here that shall secure the protection of life and property and the tranquility of this people. This, in my judgment, can only be done by furnishing physical aid. The interests of foreigners in this country cannot be left without some protection of non-combatants engaged in peaceful pursuits, the larger proportion of whom are French subjects; there are at least thirty thousand. There should be an armed force, properly distributed, in the country, temporarily at least, to assist the government that may be established in preserving order and enforcing its decrees. Ten or fifteen thousand United States troops, properly distributed in the northern States, and a similar number of French troops in the southern States, co-operating with each other, could accomplish this."

I cannot say that I have given the precise words of General Magruder, as the conversation was somewhat desultory; but I have given the substance so far as relates to the material points.

I inquired particularly of General Magruder whether he understood from

Marshal Bazaine that the French government would desire to furnish any portion of the troops, or only in the contingency that the United States should decline to do so. General Magruder replied promptly that his understanding was that the French government would expect to provide a portion of the troops only in the event that the United States desired it or declined furnishing the necessary forces.

I then inquired whether he communicated these facts to me for my own information merely, or whether I had his authority to communicate the same to the Secretary of State. His reply was to this effect: "When I left Mexico, I expected to proceed at once to Washington and to communicate these facts directly to the government in person; but on arriving here I learn that in consequence of the death of Mr. John Van Buren, one of my attorneys, and other causes, I may be delayed for some time in this city. Regarding this information as of importance, I have sought this interview with you as the envoy of the United States to Mexico, believing that by communicating it to you I am accomplishing practically, as nearly as circumstances will permit, the promise I made to Marshal Bazaine to deliver his verbal message to the President. You are therefore at full liberty to make such use of it as you may deem proper."

The foregoing, so far as my recollection serves me, embraces all the essential points of the interview which I thought it proper to accord to General Magruder in compliance with his request communicated to me by Mr. Minor.

From his manner and the general tenor of his conversation, the impression was left upon my mind that he was sincere, and that he desired in good faith to serve the interests of the government in communicating what he did.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington.

No. 192.

Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.

No. 3.] UNITED STATES STEAMER SUSQUEHANNA,
Havana, November 23, 1866.

SIR: The haste of my departure from New York rendered it impossible for me to confer, as it seemed necessary I should, with our consuls to Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico, with reference to the arrangement of some plan by which they could promptly and reliably communicate to me such information as it will be necessary for me to have, on arriving upon the coast of Mexico, as to the situation of affairs in the interior. On reaching here and finding that the steamer Manhattan, upon which these gentlemen had embarked at New York, had not yet arrived at this port, I thought it proper and desirable to delay here at least until their arrival, in order to confer more fully with them.

The Manhattan reached here on the afternoon of the 19th, and on the 20th I had a full conversation with both Mr. Lane and Mr. Otterbourg, and arranged a system by which they will collect and transmit to me such information as may tend to expedite my efforts to communicate speedily with President Juarez.

On the morning of the 21st these gentlemen proceeded to their destination, and will probably reach Vera Cruz on the 25th instant.

The steamer upon which they go will carry to Vera Cruz the first information of the departure of the mission from the United States, and the lapse of a few days will therefore enable its effects to be felt, and information to be collected prior to our arrival; as also to enable Mr. Otterbourg to reach the city of

Mexico and communicate with me from there. From information already communicated to you in my despatch of the 21st, and as derived from other sources, it appears probable that Maximilian will have left the country by or about the 23d instant. On the 22d also a steamer will leave Vera Cruz for this port reaching here about the 27th, and thus bringing information up to a very late date.

I have therefore thought that a delay here of a few days might be of advantage in throwing light upon the proper course to be pursued, and also, perhaps, in enabling action to be taken on arriving at Vera Cruz, without unnecessary delay, which otherwise might be experienced in waiting information from Mr. Otterbourg after his arrival at his post.

This course seems to me the more necessary for the reason that under the discretion thrown upon me by your instructions, I desire to act with great caution in every step that I may take.

As at present advised, the so-called imperial authorities still hold possession of the port of Vera Cruz. Your instructions do not authorize me to proceed to any place in Mexico "held or occupied at the time of your (my) arrival by enemies of the republic of Mexico."

My present impression is, that at the proper time we will decide to sail for Vera Cruz, but to anchor at Green island or Sacrificios, outside the harbor proper, for the purpose of receiving from our consul, Mr. Lane, any information he may have to communicate, or that may be received through him from Mr. Otterbourg, or from other sources.

This may also afford an opportunity to confer with "the republican government and its agents," if there be such there, and also to "confer informally with any other parties or agents," should it become necessary to do so.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington.

No. 193.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.

No. 6.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 30, 1866.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches Nos. 2 and 3, of the 21st and 23d instant respectively.

* * * * * * *

Your despatch No. 2, containing an account of your interview with Mr. Magruder, has been submitted to the President.

The department approves of your proceedings mentioned in your No. 3 of the 23d instant, which seem to have been discreet.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL, Esq., *&c.*, *&c.*, *&c.*

No. 194.

Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.

No. 4.] UNITED STATES STEAMER SUSQUEHANNA,
At anchor off Verde Island, outside the Port of Vera Cruz, December 1, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to report my arrival at this anchorage on the 29th ultimo, having left Havana on the afternoon of the 25th.

Mr. Lane, our consul at this port, was on board with me here during the day yesterday.

From him, and from other sources, I have gained the following information as to the state of affairs at this point, and, so far as is known here, with regard to the interior.

Maximilian is still at Orizaba. His ministers, it is stated, are now there with him. He has not been in the city of Mexico since his departure from that place the last of October.

It is generally understood that the functions of government in the city of Mexico are in the hands of Marshal Bazaine.

At Orizaba and at this port the civil power appears, however, still to be exercised by so-called Maximilian authorities.

Between these and the French there is evidently some disagreement, particularly with reference to the possession of the custom-house of this port.

No French troops, so far as I can learn, were embarked at this port during the month of November nor for some time previous. There are but one or two transport vessels now here, and nothing transpiring that is obvious here, that indicates any preparations for the immediate withdrawal of any part of the French forces.

It is said that they are being withdrawn from the interior and concentrated on the line from the city of Mexico to this port. From a French source I learn that the number of their troops now in this country is twenty-eight thousand.

It is reported that Miramon and Marquez are with Maximilian at Orizaba, and that the government may be turned over to them as the representatives of the reactionary party.

I am unable to obtain here any definite information as to the movements of President Juarez, but it seems to be the general impression that he is now in the neighborhood of the city of San Luis Potosi. The French forces have been withdrawn from that point, and there remained in that vicinity but a small Maximilian force, which it is believed can interpose but little obstacle to the occupation of that place by the forces of President Juarez.

The harbor of Vera Cruz being in full and complete possession of the enemies of the republic, acting under your instructions, I do not deem it proper to land here.

The French expeditionary forces having been concentrated on the line from this city to Mexico, it appears to me that this route is the very last that I should adopt in seeking to establish communication with President Juarez. I should not feel authorized to accept, even if tendered to me, the good offices of those who are and have been for years in the attitude of enemies of the republic, in seeking to reach its President.

I expect to receive positive information from our consul at Tampico, Mr. Chase, as to the situation at that point, by the English steamer which will be due from that port to-morrow.

From all the information I can gather here, that port, and the line thence to San Luis Potosi, are in the undisturbed possession of the liberals.

From my present information, therefore, it appears that there is no other

point on the coast from whence I can more speedily open communication with President Juarez than Tampico; and unless some important fact is developed here within a delay of a few days, changing the aspect of affairs, I shall proceed at once to that port and make an effort to reach the government of the republic at San Luis Potosi, or some other point in the interior in that direction.

My anxiety to open communication with President Juarez as speedily as possible is enhanced by the fact that the condition of affairs may be such as to require some action on the part of Congress during its short session, and early and reliable information, therefore, cannot but be regarded as important by the department.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington.

No. 195.

Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.

No. 5.] UNITED STATES STEAMER SUSQUEHANNA,
Isla Verde, off Vera Cruz, December 1, 1866.

SIR: I had just finished my despatch No. 4 to you of this date, when a boat came off to our consul, Mr. Lane, who is still on board, bringing the enclosed proclamation published this morning in Vera Cruz, which I have only time to send you without translation by this mail.

From its tenor it appears that Maximilian has decided to remain in the country.

A note from the office of the consulate to Mr. Lane states that Maximilian left Orizaba (it is supposed for the city of Mexico) last night.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington.

[Translation.]

Long live the empire!—Long live the emperor!

VERACRUZANS: One of the most grateful events for good Mexicans has just occurred to the nation.

His Majesty the emperor, who has made so many sacrifices for the welfare and happiness of our dear country, has given the best proof of the interest he takes in it.

When overwhelmed by the natural feelings which were still contending and still are so in his mind, in consequence of the ill-health of his august and noble spouse our beloved sovereign, he thought for a moment that he ought temporarily to abandon the country to devote himself to fulfilling the sacred duty of offering to his worthy consort the cares she so much needs in the delicate condition in which she is. The emperor sacrifices himself for us, postpones his duties as a man to those which his honor points out to him to be controlling, and in these critical moments, that the country may pass safely through, he solemnly declares that he will continue at the helm, and will contest without remission until the last drop of his blood be shed in defence of the nation.

Veracruzans! Let us rejoice; let us give thanks to Providence for having saved the integrity of our territory, and with full outpouring of our hearts let us hail the day of the resurrection of our nationality, on the eve of disappearing.

VERA CRUZ, *December* 1, 1866.

No. 196.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.

No. 10.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 15, 1866.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches Nos. 4 and 5.

* * * * * * *

The department approves of the matters contained in your No. 4.

I am, sir, your obedient servant.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL, Esq., *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 197.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.

No. 7.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 6, 1866.

SIR: I transmit for your information a copy of a telegram of the 3d instant, from Mr. Bigelow, at Paris, giving the substance of a note to him from the French minister for foreign affairs in regard to the military occupation of Mexico. From this it appears that the French troops will be withdrawn altogether from Mexico in March next. It does not seem necessary to modify the instructions heretofore sent to you.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL, Esq., *&c., &c., &c.*

PARIS, *December* 3.

In reply to a verbal communication, the minister for foreign affairs writes me to-day, "The resolutions of the French government are not changed, but, from military considerations, it has thought it ought to substitute a collective evacuation of Mexico for one by divisions; and our force of occupation is to embark in the month of March next." I add that the French government is disposed to have an understanding with the United States, in view of possible events in Mexico.

JOHN BIGELOW.

The SECRETARY OF STATE, *Washington.*

No. 198.

Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.

No. 6.] BRAZOS SANTIAGO, *December* 13, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to advise you that, not deeming it proper to enter the harbor of Vera Cruz, we left our anchorage off Green island (Isla Verde) on the evening of the 2d instant, and proceeded to Tampico, arriving at the bar off that port on the 4th. Meeting there the United States gunboat Paul

Jones," Captain Fitzhugh commanding, we learned that the port was in possession of the liberals, and under orders from Commodore Alden that vessel conveyed Lieutenant General Sherman and myself, and our respective suites, across the bar and up to Tampico. On reaching the town, the boats of the officers of the port came off, and we were received and escorted on shore to the American consulate with much attention.

During the evening we received visits from the principal civil and military authorities of the place, which were duly returned by us the following morning.

Ascertaining that the information received at Vera Cruz, that the forces of the national government were in possession of the city of San Luis Potosi, was incorrect, and President Juarez was probably still at Chihuahua, we were forced to the conclusion that a speedy communication with him from that point could not be effected. It was therefore deemed best to forward to the minister of foreign affairs, Señor Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada, a communication, copy of which is enclosed herewith, marked No. 1, advising him of our arrival in the country and desire speedily to reach the seat of government of President Juarez; which communication was placed in the hands of General Gomez, the chief military officer of the place, who agreed to forward the same by special courier.

We left Tampico on the afternoon of the 5th instant, and anchored off the bar of this port on the 7th. Here we learned of the presence of General Sheridan in Brownsville, and had an interview with him on his return from that place in the evening. From General Sheridan we learned that the national forces under General Escobedo were in full and complete possession of Matamoras.

On the 8th we proceeded to Brownsville. On the 9th we crossed to Matamoras and had a full and cordial interview with General Escobedo, commanding the national army of the north and representative of the government of the republic on this frontier. From him we learned that President Juarez would probably be in Monterey by the 20th instant. Acting upon this information, I at once determined to proceed to that point. This determination I communicated to Mr. Lerdo de Tejada by a special courier, despatched by General Escobedo that night. A copy of my communication is herewith attached, marked No. 2.

On reaching Brownsville on the evening of the 8th, I received a polite note from General Escobedo, expressing his satisfaction at the arrival of the mission on this frontier. Copy of this note and translation, marked No. 3, is annexed hereto. Copy of my reply, also annexed, is marked No. 4.

Having spent only a few hours in Tampico, and the same time in Matamoras, it would not be proper for me at this time to attempt to give any detailed information as to the general situation of affairs in the interior of the country, but all the information I have received, both at Tampico and from General Escobedo, appears to be highly favorable to the cause of the republic. The spirit of the national forces is undoubtedly excellent, but their progress is necessarily slow from the great disadvantages under which they labor for want of means.

On the 12th instant we returned to this point, Brazos Santiago.

Here I take leave of Commodore Alden of the Susquehanna, of whose uniform kindness and courtesy to myself and suite I desire to make special mention, and whose promptitude and unceasing vigilance as a naval officer cannot be too highly acknowledged.

Lieutenant General Sherman does not deem it necessary to accompany me to Monterey, and leaves here in the Susquehanna.

To-morrow it is my purpose to return to Matamoras, and thence to proceed without delay to Monterey.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

TAMPICO, *December* 5, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to advise you informally of my arrival at this point in the character of envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from the United States to the republic of Mexico, of which his excellency Don Benito Juarez is President.

Lieutenant General Sherman, of the United States army, accompanies me in my mission.

We arrived here on the 4th instant in the United States steam frigate Susquehanna, Commodore Alden commanding. On our way here we anchored from noon on the 29th ultimo to the afternoon of the 2d instant at Green island, off the port of Vera Cruz. Finding that port in possession of the enemies of the Mexican republic we did not enter the harbor, and observing no prospect of a change in affairs there we came to this port, which we find is occupied by the forces of the constitutional government.

For reasons which will be obvious to you, I regard it as of importance both to the government of President Juarez and of the United States that I should speedily effect an official communication with him.

The Congress of the United States is now in session, but, under our Constitution, will adjourn on the 4th of next March, and it is not probable that it will meet again until next December. Therefore, as the condition of affairs in Mexico and the continued occupation of its territory by the French may, in the judgment of the President, require congressional rather than executive action, it seems to me that I should present my letters of credence without unnecessary delay. For these reasons I address you this informal note by courier.

As now advised I presume that the movements of your government are in this direction, and it has been suggested that President Juarez might, perhaps, establish the seat of his government temporarily at this place. This would greatly facilitate me in communicating official intelligence to my government as to the condition of affairs and the desires of President Juarez.

If, however, the President has no intention of coming here, I desire to be advised as early as possible as to the point in the interior at which and the time when I may probably have an opportunity of presenting my credentials. I shall await information from you on these points at this place or Brownsville, Texas, in company with Lieutenant General Sherman and Commodore Alden, and we will detain the Susquehanna and the United States gunboat Paul Jones until I hear from you.

I am, sir, with great respect, most truly, your obedient servant,

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.

His Excellency DON SEBASTIAN LERDO DE TEJADA,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Mexican Republic.

P. S.—You will please send your reply to me to the care of Franklin Chase, esq., United States consul at this port, and duplicate copy of same to me, care commanding officer United States forces at Brownsville, Texas.

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, *December* 9, 1866.

SIR: I enclose herewith a copy of a communication, duplicate copies of which I placed in the hands of General Gomez at Tampico, on the 5th instant. He promised to forward them to you by courier.

I left Tampico in company with Lieutenant General Sherman on the 5th

instant, and arrived here yesterday. To-day we have had an interview with General Escobedo, in Matamoras, and I have concluded to proceed to Monterey for the purpose of meeting President Juarez at that point.

General Sherman will leave me here and proceed in the United States steam frigate Susquehanna to New Orleans to confer with our government at Washington by telegraph.

For many reasons not proper to be mentioned herein, I regard it as important to the cause of the republic that I should communicate with President Juarez at Monterey speedily, and I shall go there with the expectation of enjoying that honor at an early day.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.

His Excellency Don Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada,
Minister of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Mexico.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

Brownsville, *December* 8, 1866.

General: I have the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of your esteemed favor of this date, and beg to express to you my acknowledgments for your polite attention.

In company with Lieutenant General Sherman, I shall have the pleasure of waiting upon you in person, at your headquarters in Matamoras, at ten o'clock to-morrow.

It is the earnest desire of the government of the United States that the republic of Mexico, of which Don Benito Juarez is the recognized President, should speedily be acknowledged by all the nations of the earth as a stable and permanent nationality.

The purpose of our mission is not to dictate or interfere with the free will of the people of Mexico in regard to the form of government that they shall adopt.

I am, general, with the highest respect, your most attentive and obedient servant,

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.

General Don Mariano Escobedo,
General-in-Chief of the army of the north, and representative of the government of the republic of Mexico on this frontier,
Matamoras.

No. 199.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.

No. 11.] Department of State,
Washington, December 27, 1866.

Sir: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of December 13, No. 6.

* * * * * * * * *

Your proceedings at Vera Cruz, Tampico, and Brownsville, as therein related, are approved.

The information which you have given me is appreciated. With a reservation, which I may take a more convenient occasion to mention, the President approves of the notes of which a copy is appended to your despatch.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Lewis D. Campbell, Esq., *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 200.

Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.

No. 7.] NEW ORLEANS, *December* 24, 1866.

SIR: Referring to my despatch No. 6, of the 13th instant, from Brazos Santiago, I have now the honor to inform you that I left that place on the 16th instant, and reached Brownsville late the same evening.

The following morning I received a note from General Escobedo, advising me that he would be obliged to leave for the interior at once.

Copy and translation of the same is enclosed herewith, marked No. 1.

On the 18th I received, from a reliable source, information that President Juarez remained at Chihuahua as late as the 24th of November, with no indications of a departure from that point, and that it was doubtful whether he would leave, and if he left, whether he would go to Monterey.

On the same day, ascertaining that Ortega had crossed the Rio Grande from the United States into Mexico. and that probably Canales and Cortinas, with their forces, would unite against Escobedo, I deemed it improper to proceed in the direction of Monterey.

On the afternoon of the 19th, not having received any communication from the department since your instructions on setting out, I deemed it proper to come to this point as speedily as possible, with a view of communicating directly with the government by telegraph.

I advised General Berriozabal of this determination by a note, a copy of which is enclosed herewith, marked No. 2.

Leaving Brownsville on the 19th, I arrived here, by way of Galveston, in the night of the 22d.

When in the Gulf of Mexico I was overtaken by the United States gunboat Winooski, Captain Cooper commanding, bearing to me your despatch No. 4, of the 23d of November last.

Captain Cooper also handed to me a despatch from Mr. Lane, our consul at Vera Cruz, enclosing a communication from Mr. Otterbourg, our consul at the city of Mexico.

Copy of Mr. Lane's despatch, which is of a late date, is herewith enclosed, marked No. 3.

In his communication to me, Mr. Otterbourg enclosed a sealed communication from Marshal Bazaine to Lieutenant General Sherman, which I have delivered to him here.

This sealed communication, without instructions from Washington, seemed to me to make it imperative on me to deliver it in person.

I consider my presence on the border of Mexico unimportant, if not harmful, until the residence of the republican government under Juarez shall have been definitely ascertained. I desire to avoid any complication of our government with the factions of the liberals, who seem now to be at war with each other; therefore I will go back to Mexico or return to Washington for further instructions, as the department may direct.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

[Enclosure No. 1.—Translation.]

MATAMORAS, *December* 16, 1866.

SIR: Urgent military duties have placed me under the necessity of not remaining in this city the time that I desired, in order not to deprive myself of the pleasing honor of awaiting your excellency.

But there will remain to represent me in this city the general of division, Felipe Berriozabal, military commandant of the district and chief of the line of the Rio Grande, in order to present anew to your excellency my respects.

In addition, I have already given orders that there should be placed at the convenient points the escort which is to accompany your excellency, whom I hope to have the pleasure of seeing on the road or in the city of Monterey.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

M. ESCOBEDO.

His Excellency Hon. LEWIS D. CAMPBELL,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

BROWNSVILLE, *December* 19, 1866.

GENERAL: Circumstances have transpired which render it expedient that I should go over to Galveston or New Orleans to communicate with my government at Washington.

This will require an absence of ten days or two weeks, and I must therefore postpone my intended trip to Monterey for that period.

You will please communicate these facts to General Escobedo, with my thanks for his courtesies and kindness.

I am, general, your very obedient servant,

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.

General F. BERRIOZABAL,
Commanding in Chief, Matamoras.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Vera Cruz, December 15, 1866.

SIR: Yesterday the American gunboat Winooski put in here expecting to find you. As they have important despatches for and instructions to find you somewhere, I have thought it best to send by them what correspondence I have received since your departure—among them a despatch from Mr. Otterbourg, enclosing message from General Bazaine. I hope I do not err in sending them.

The mail steamer from France arrived here on the 11th instant, bringing two hundred soldiers belonging to the foreign legion. The same day the steamer Florida arrived for the purpose of taking any French troops.

Maximilian left Orizaba on the 12th instant for the city, it is said, but will make a stop at Cholula. With the present feeling existing between him and Bazaine I do not believe he dares to go to the city.

Bazaine had Marquez and Miramon arrested, but the latter escaped, and has not yet been recaptured.

It is said the priests have offered to raise Maximilian $15,000,000 and 36,000 troops, 12,000 each under the command of Marquez, Miramon, and Marin.

That the French are preparing to leave I cannot doubt, from present appearances; still, I may be mistaken.

When I got on shore from the Susquehanna I was met by the report that the prefect of this city, acting under orders from Maximilian, had commanded the Susquehanna to leave this port forthwith. I am sorry to say it was believed by many. When the news of her departure reached Orizaba the bells were rung and the rabble shouted. There were heard *vivas* for Maximilian—groans and cries of death to the Americans and the French.

On Sunday last the French took forcible possession of the custom-house, turning out all the appointees of Maximilian, from collector down, and filling their places with French.

I send you all the newspapers that have come to hand; also papers and proclamations of this country.

The Winooski was very kindly and courteously treated by Admiral Clam.

With kind remembrances to all your party, yourself included, I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

M. D. L. LANE.

Hon. L. D. CAMPBELL, *United States Minister, &c.*

No. 201.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.

No. 12.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 29, 1866.

SIR: Your despatch No. 7, of the 24th instant, has been received. The proceedings to which it refers are approved. We adhere to the directions given you in the telegram of the 25th instant.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL, Esq., *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 202.

Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.

OFFICE UNITED STATES MILITARY TELEGRAPH,
Washington, D. C., December 24, 1866.

[Telegram received at War Department from New Orleans, December 24, 1866—time 5 p. m.]

Hon. W. H. SEWARD, *Secretary of State:*

Left Matamoras 19th; Juarez still at Chihuahua November 24th; Ortega gone on to Mexico; Canales and Cortinas, with their followers, reported to have pronounced for Ortega. It is my deliberate judgment that I cannot soon communicate with Juarez, and that my presence on the border does more harm than good. I learn by telegraph that my daughter is very ill; will you permit me to return home, or report in person at Washington?

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.

No. 203.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 25, 1866.

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL, Esq., *&c., &c., &c., New Orleans:*

Your despatch of 24th received. You are especially desired to remain in New Orleans until you receive further directions, after more definite intelligence from Mexico. Should you return home, however, on account of ill health in your family, you will be expected to return as early as possible to New Orleans.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

No. 204.

Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.

No. 8.] NEW ORLEANS, *December* 31, 1866.

SIR: I regard it proper to inform you of the facts brought to my knowledge of a flagrant wrong lately perpetrated on an American citizen by the authorities of the Mexican republic. These should have been imparted sooner, but, in the constant movements to which this legation has been subject by the embarrassments which have surrounded it, some of the papers bearing upon the affair were misplaced.

On the 13th instant, after Lieutenant General Sherman and myself had returned from Matamoras—we were detained at Brazos Santiago by a storm, which had driven the Susquehanna and the Paul Jones to sea—a paper was presented to us asking our interference to prevent a threatened outrage to the owner of the American schooner Mary Bertrand, that had lately been wrecked on the Mexican coast near Bagdad. The facts of this case were subsequently presented to me in a more formal and reliable manner by the papers herewith enclosed, marked Nos. 1, 2, and 3, to which your special attention is called.

Not having opened any official communication with the government of President Juarez, it seemed proper that I should refer the matter to Mr. Marshall, our consul at Matamoras. Accordingly a telegram was sent to him by Lieutenant General Sherman and myself, copy of which is enclosed, marked No. 4.

Receiving reliable information at Brazos Santiago, on the 15th, that the specie referred to had been actually seized by a military force, and that General Escobedo, who had represented himself to Lieutenant General Sherman and myself as the representative of the government of the republic on that frontier, had refused to interpose his authority for the protection of the rights of our shipwrecked mariners, I started from Brazos Santiago for Matamoras on the 16th, and arrived at Brownsville at eleven o'clock that night, with the view of having his attention more particularly called to the subject. On the following morning, before I had time to cross the river to Matamoras, I received the note from General Escobedo, (copy and translation of which were enclosed in my despatch from this place of the 24th instant,) who had agreed to await my arrival, informing me he would be obliged to leave at once for Monterey.

I immediately despatched Mr. Plumb, the secretary of legation, to Matamoras, for the purpose, if possible, of seeing General Escobedo, and informally urging upon him the necessity of arranging the affair of the seized specie before his departure. On the arrival of Mr. Plumb, however, in Matamoras, at about eleven o'clock a. m., it was learned that General Escobedo had already left for the interior.

The enclosed papers, stating the case, were immediately brought before General Berriozabal, who had been left in command, by Mr. Marshall, and every possible effort used to procure the return of the specie to its owners, but without avail. The most that could be accomplished was an order from the judge that the money should be placed in our consul's hands until the claimant should procure proof from Tampico that the specie had been properly cleared from that port, thus subjecting him to great inconvenience and expense, and depriving him of his rights for an indefinite period, if not to the entire loss of his property in the present revolutionary and turbulent condition of affairs at that point.

The sudden departure of General Escobedo, (when it was known to him I had just arrived,) in connection with the seizure of this specie, seemed to me somewhat mysterious, if not positively suspicious. This impression was strengthened by the fact that General Escobedo had agreed to wait, with his escort, for me, and had been fully apprised by both Lieutenant General Sherman and myself of the friendly disposition of our government.

Having then established no official relations with the government, I could not further interpose with regard to this affair; but it occurs to me, in view of the many complaints that are made by American citizens in that quarter, and especially in view of the alleged wrongs inflicted by the liberal authorities, as represented by Mr. Ulrich, the consul at Monterey, and others of that city, which were made the subject-matter of your despatch No. 2, of October 2 last, that I should call your special attention to this case.

In presenting these facts to you, permit me respectfully to make the suggestion, that, from all I could learn, there is little disposition to respect our flag or the rights of our citizens in that region of Mexico.

Such acts seem to me to be flagrant aggressions upon the principles of international integrity and good will, if not positive violations of solemn treaty stipulations. At least they form some of the reasons why I do not feel disposed, until otherwise positively instructed by the department, to appear to obtrude hastily our "good offices" on that government, until its residence shall have been definitively established, and its authorities show, practically, some power and a greater disposition *to enforce justice and to respect our flag.*

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS,
December 17, 1866.

SIR: The undersigned, a citizen of the United States, has the honor to address your excellency in regard to a seizure of his property by the authorities of the republic of Mexico, under circumstances which the undersigned cannot but consider as illegal and arbitrary. The facts are as follows:

The undersigned, owner of the American schooner Mary Bertrand, cleared at the port of Tampico, Mexico, for Brazos Santiago, Texas, and set sail on the 3d instant under the customary sea-papers, having on board twenty thousand dollars in silver, the property of the undersigned and others. The export permit for the silver on board was taken up by the proper officer, at the mouth of the Tamesi river, so that this paper did not remain on board.

It is proper to state that the twenty thousand dollars referred to were the proceeds of a lot of arms and ammunition sold by the undersigned to the republican Mexican authorities of Tampico, and that it was a condition of the sale, made to them by the undersigned, that the purchase-money should be allowed to leave the country under a free permit and exempt from duties.

This condition was fulfilled by the authorities at Tampico, and the money was placed on board the Mary Bertrand by the Mexican customs officers of that port, with the necessary papers.

Afterwards, on the ninth day of this month, the Mary Bertrand was wrecked in a storm, and cast upon the Mexican coast, a few miles below the mouth of the Rio Grande. The specie on board was taken ashore and hauled by the undersigned, as part of the wreck, and for greater safety, to Bagdad, at the mouth of the Rio Grande.

While there, a party of Mexican soldiers, forming part of General Escobeda's command, attempted to take possession of the specie, whereupon the undersigned placed over it, for protection, a flag of the United States, and warned the officer commanding the soldiery that he should respect that safeguard and leave the money undisturbed.

Notwithstanding this, the specie in question was, on Monday afternoon, December 10, seized by the said officer, and afterwards, on the 12th instant, the

same was transmitted by him to Matamoras, where the customs authorities of that city now hold it.

The undersigned has been unable to obtain any redress for the injury done to him by such illegal seizure, nor can he secure the possession of the specie to which he is entitled, and the undersigned fears that unless some action is taken in the premises by your excellency he will meet with a total loss of this money.

Therefore the undersigned earnestly appeals to your excellency for the protection to which he believes himself entitled, and respectfully requests your interposition to prevent a great wrong from being inflicted on citizens of the United States who are interested herein.

I am your excellency's most obedient servant,

A. A. McGAFFEY.

His Excellency LEWIS D. CAMPBELL,
Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of the United States to the Republic of Mexico.

The foregoing affidavit sworn to and subscribed before me this 19th day of December, A. D. 1866.

Witness my hand and the seal of the district court in and for Cameron county, State of Texas, being of the 12th judicial district of the same.

[SEAL.]

S. POWERS,
Judge of the 12th Judicial District of Texas.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

STATE OF TEXAS, *County of Cameron:*

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned authority, J. W. Tompkins, to me known, who being duly sworn, upon his oath doth declare and say that he is master of the American schooner Mary Bertrand, now totally a wreck on the coast of Mexico, a few miles below the mouth of the Rio Grande; that she sailed from the port of Tampico, Mexico, on the 3d day of December, A.D. 1866, for the port of Brazos Santiago, in the county and State aforesaid; that he obtained from the customs officers at Tampico the usual clearance papers; that there was, at the time of sailing from said port, twenty thousand silver dollars, in nine wooden boxes, the property of A. A. McGaffey and others—the same specie having been laden and put on board the said schooner by the Mexican customs authorities of said port; that the said authorities furnished affiant with the proper permit for the exportation of said specie, which was taken at the mouth of the Tamesi river by the proper officer as is usual at said port; that subsequently, to wit, on the 9th day of December, A. D. 1866, the said schooner Mary Bertrand was wrecked and cast away on the Mexican coast aforesaid, and the said specie was removed from on board and taken ashore, the schooner herself being a total wreck.

J. M. TOMPKINS, *Master.*

Sworn and subscribed before me this 17th day of December, 1866, at my office in Brownsville, Cameron county, Texas.

[SEAL.]

EDWARD DOUGHERTY,
Notary Public, Cameron County, Texas.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

STATE OF TEXAS, *County of Cameron:*

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned authority, Charles D. Stocking, to me known, who being duly sworn by me, upon his oath did declare and say, that he is an American citizen; that on the 3d day of December, A. D. 1866,

he left Tampico, in the republic of Mexico, for the port of Brazos Santiago, in county and State aforesaid, on board the American schooner Mary Bertrand, J. B. Tompkins, master; that previous to sailing the vessel was regularly cleared at the custom-house of the port of Tampico, and that the officers of the said custom-house did load and put on board the said Mary Bertrand twenty thousand dollars, contained in nine wooden boxes covered with grass matting; that the said loading and putting on board of said specie by the said Mexican authorities was open and public and in view of the bystanders then and there being; that the affiant knows that the said specie, thus being put on board the Mary Bertrand by the Mexican customs authorities of Tampico, was in payment of a lot of arms sold to the Mexican government by A. A. McGaffey, a citizen of the United States; that subsequently, to wit, on the 9th day of December, 1866, the said schooner Mary Bertrand was wrecked in a storm and cast upon the coast of Mexico a few miles below the mouth of the Rio Grande, and the said twenty thousand dollars were removed from on board to the shore. Afterwards the same were taken to Bagdad, as part of the wreck, for safety. Affiant further declares, that the Mexican authorities have seized the said specie and have now possession thereof.

CHARLES D. STOCKING.

Sworn and subscribed before me at my office in the city of Brownsville, on the 17th day of December, A. D. 1866.

[SEAL.]

EDWARD DOUGHERTY,
Notary Public, Cameron County, Texas.

[Enclosure No. 4.—Telegram.]

BRAZOS SANTIAGO, *December* 13, 1866.

To the U. S. CONSUL, *Matamoras:*

SIR: Representations have just been made to us that nine cases of silver, said to contain eighteen thousand dollars, the property of an American citizen, regularly cleared from Tampico for this port, and wrecked near Bagdad, and there placed by the owner in the safe-keeping of the agent of King, Kennedy & Co., are sought to be taken possession of from the owner and his agents by the collector of Bagdad, supported by an armed force, claiming to act under authority. It is stated that forcible possession of the same would be taken last night, notwithstanding the protest of the owner and his agents.

You will please call the immediate attention of General Escobedo to this matter, that the proper orders may be given, if the facts are as above represented.

Respectfully, your obedient servants,

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL.
W. T. SHERMAN,
Lieutenant General U. S. A.

No. 205.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.

No. 14] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, January 14, 1867.

SIR: I have received your despatch No. 8, of the 31st ultimo, concerning the seizure, by some liberal forces under General Escobedo, of a sum amounting to about twenty thousand dollars in silver, belonging to A. A. McGaffey and others, citizens of the United States. Your letter on the subject to the consul at Matamoras is approved.

As the money is now in his hands, there would seem to be no difficulty in the way of its restitution to the owners after they shall have obtained and presented to the consul the requisite proof of its having been properly cleared from Tampico.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL, Esq., *&c., &c., &c., New Orleans.*

No. 19.

CORRESPONDENCE ON THE MEXICAN QUESTION WITH LEGATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES IN EUROPE.

List of papers.

ENGLAND.

206. Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams.....Dec. 21, 1864.
207. Same to same.....Feb. 7, 1865.
208. Mr. Adams to Mr. Seward.....Feb. 9, 1865.
209. Same to same.....Feb. 17, 1865.
210. Same to same.....Feb. 23, 1865.
211. Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams.....March 25, 1865.
212. Mr. Adams to Mr. Seward.....June 2, 1865.

FRANCE.

213. Mr. Dayton to Mr. Seward.....March 25, 1864.
214. Mr. Seward to Mr. Dayton.....April 7, 1864.
215. Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.....Feb. 13, 1865.
216. Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward.....March 10, 1865.
217. Same to same.....March 17, 1865.
218. Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.....March 27, 1865.
219. Same to same.....March 30, 1865.
220. Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward.....April 17, 1865.
221. Mr. Hunter to Mr. Bigelow.....Oct. 19, 1865.
222. Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.....Oct. 30, 1865.

AUSTRIA.

223. Mr. Motley to Mr. Seward.....Feb. 13, 1865.
224. Same to same.....Feb. 26, 1865.
225. Mr. Motley to Mr. Hunter.....June 5, 1865.

PRUSSIA.

226. Mr. Wright to Mr. Seward.....Nov. 15, 1865.

BELGIUM.

227. Mr. Sanford to Mr. Seward.....Feb. 1, 1865.
228. Same to same.....March 13, 1865.
229. Same to same.....April 12, 1865.
230. Same to same.....May 29, 1865.
231. Same to same.....May 31, 1865.

ITALY.

232. Mr. Marsh to Mr. Hunter.....May 15, 1865.
233. Same to same.....June 5, 1865.
234. Same to same.....June 29, 1865.

ROME.

235. Mr. King to Mr. Seward.....March 4, 1865.
236. Same to same.....April 22, 1865.
237. Same to same.....May 24, 1865.
238. Mr. King to Mr. Hunter.....June 2, 1865.

NETHERLANDS.

239. Mr. Pike to Mr. Hunter.....May 17, 1865.
240. Mr. Pike to Mr. Seward.....Oct. 18, 1865.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

241. Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.....Sept. 27, 1864.
242. Same to same.....Nov. 5, 1864.
243. Same to same.....Dec. 13, 1864.
244. Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.....Jan. 10, 1865.

TURKEY.

245. Mr. Morris to Mr. Seward.....March 29, 1865.
246. Mr. Morris to Mr. Hunter.....May 18, 1865.
247. Same to same.....May 25, 1865.
248. Mr. Seward to Mr. Morris.....Sept. 21, 1865.
249. Mr. Morris to Mr. Seward.....Oct. 29, 1865.

EGYPT.

250. Mr. Hale to Mr. Seward.....Aug. 26, 1865.
251. Mr. Seward to Mr. Hale.....Sept. 21, 1865.
252. Mr. Hale to Mr. Seward.....Oct. 27, 1865.
253. Same to same.....Nov. 13, 1865.
254. Same to same.....Nov. 18, 1865.
255. Mr. Seward to Mr. Hale.....Nov. 27, 1865.
256. Mr. Hale to Mr. Seward.....Nov. 27, 1865.

MOROCCO.

257. Mr. Perry to Mr. Seward.....Dec. 17, 1864.

GREAT BRITAIN.

No. 206.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams.

No. 1199.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 21, 1864.

SIR: I enclose for your information a copy of a despatch of the 12th ultimo, No. 208, from Charles A. Leas, esq., the United States commercial agent at Belize, in regard to a recent proclamation of Prince Maximilian affecting the British settlement in the Honduras, and relating also to other features of political affairs in that quarter and the West Indies.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, Esq., *&c., &c., &c.*

[For the enclosure to this letter, see House Ex. Doc. No. 73, 39th Congress, 1st session, Part II, page 413.]

No. 207.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams.

No. 1258.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, February 7, 1865.

SIR: It is a truism that in times of peace there are always instigators of war. So soon as a war begins, there are citizens who impatiently demand negotiations for peace. The advocates of war, after an agitation longer or shorter, generally gain their fearful end, though the war declared is not unfrequently unnecessary and unwise. So peace agitators, in time of war, ultimately bring about an abandonment of the conflict—sometimes without securing the advantages which were originally expected from the conflict.

The agitators for war in time of peace, and for peace in time of war, are not necessarily, or perhaps ordinarily, unpatriotic in their purposes or motives. Results alone determine whether they are wise or unwise. The treaty of peace concluded at Guadalupe Hidalgo was secured by an irregular negotiator under the ban of the government. Some of the efforts which have been made to bring about negotiations with a view to end our civil war are known to the whole world, because they have employed foreign as well as domestic agents. Others, with whom you have had to deal confidentially, are known to yourself, although they have not publicly transpired. Other efforts have occurred here, which are known only to the persons actually moving in them, and to this government. I am now to give you, for your information, an account of an affair of the same general character, which recently received much attention here, and which doubtless will excite inquiry abroad.

A few days ago Francis P. Blair, esq., of Maryland, obtained from the President a simple leave to pass through our military lines, without definite views known to the government. Mr. Blair visited Richmond, and on his return he showed to the President a letter which Jefferson Davis had written to Mr. Blair, in which Davis wrote that Mr. Blair was at liberty to say to President Lincoln that Davis was now, as he had always been, willing to send commissioners, if assured they would be received, or to receive any that should be sent; that he was not disposed to find obstacles in forms. He would send commissioners to confer with the President with a view to a restoration of peace between the two countries if he could be assured they would be received. The President thereupon, on the 18th of January, addressed a note to Mr. Blair, in which the President, after acknowledging that he had read the note of Mr. Davis, said that he was, is, and always should be willing to receive any agent that Mr. Davis or any other influential person now actually resisting the authority of the government might send to confer informally with the President with a view to the restoration of peace to the people of our one common country. Mr. Blair visited Richmond with his letter, and then again came back to Washington. On the 29th instant we were advised from the camp of Lieutenant General Grant, that Alexander H. Stephens, R. M. T. Hunter, and John A. Campbell were applying for leave to pass through the lines to Washington as peace commissioners to confer with the President. They were permitted by the Lieutenant General to come to his headquarters to await there the decision of the President. Major Eckert was sent down to meet the party from Richmond at General Grant's headquarters. The major was directed to deliver to them a copy of the President's letter to Mr. Blair, with a note to be addressed to them and signed by the major, in which they were directly informed that if they should be allowed to pass our lines, they would be understood as coming for an informal conference upon the basis of the aforenamed letter of the 18th of January to Mr. Blair. If they should express their assent to this condition in writing, then Major Eckert was directed to give them safe conduct to Fortress

Monroe, where a person coming from the President would meet them. It being thought probable, from a report of their conversation with Lieutenant General Grant, that the Richmond party would, in the manner prescribed, accept the condition mentioned, the Secretary of State was charged by the President with the duty of representing this government in the expected informal conference. The Secretary arrived at Fortress Monroe in the night of the 1st day of February. Major Eckert met him in the morning of the 2d of February with the information that the persons who had come from Richmond had not accepted in writing the condition upon which he was allowed to give them conduct to Fortress Monroe. The major had given the same information by telegraph to the President at Washington. On receiving this information, the President prepared a telegram directing the Secretary to return to Washington. The Secretary was preparing at the same moment to so return without waiting for instructions from the President. But at this juncture Lieutenant General Grant telegraphed to the Secretary of War, as well as to the Secretary of State, that the party from Richmond had reconsidered and accepted the conditions tendered them through Major Eckert; and General Grant urgently advised the President to confer in person with the Richmond party. Under these circumstances, the Secretary, by the President's direction, remained at Fortress Monroe, and the President joined him there on the night of the 2d of February. The Richmond party was brought down the James river in a United States steam transport during the day, and the transport was anchored in Hampton Roads.

On the morning of the 3d the President, attended by the Secretary, received Messrs. Stephens, Hunter, and Campbell on board the United States steam transport River Queen, in Hampton Roads. The conference was altogether informal. There was no attendance of secretaries, clerks, or other witnesses. Nothing was written or read. The conversation, although earnest and free, was calm, and courteous, and kind on both sides. The Richmond party approached the discussion rather indirectly, and at no time did they either make categorical demands, or tender formal stipulations or absolute refusals. Nevertheless, during the conference, which lasted four hours, the several points at issue between the government and the insurgents were distinctly raised, and discussed fully, intelligently, and in an amicable spirit. What the insurgent party seemed chiefly to favor was a postponement of the question of separation, upon which the war is waged, and a mutual direction of efforts of the government, as well as those of the insurgents, to some extrinsic policy or scheme for a season, during which passions might be expected to subside, and the armies be reduced, and trade and intercourse between the people of both sections resumed. It was suggested by them that through such postponement we might now have immediate peace, with some not very certain prospect of an ultimate satisfactory adjustment of political relations between this government and the States, section, or people now engaged in conflict with it.

This suggestion, though deliberately considered, was nevertheless regarded by the President as one of armistice or truce, and he announced that we can agree to no cessation or suspension of hostilities, except on the basis of the disbandment of the insurgent forces, and the restoration of the national authority throughout all the States in the Union. Collaterally, and in subordination to the proposition which was thus announced, the anti-slavery policy of the United States was reviewed in all its bearings, and the President announced that he must not be expected to depart from the position he had heretofore assumed in his proclamation of emancipation and other documents, as these positions were reiterated in his last annual message. It was further declared by the President that the complete restoration of the national authority everywhere was an indispensable condition of any assent on our part to whatever form of peace might be proposed. The President assured the other party that, while he must adhere to these positions, he would be prepared, so far as power is lodged with the

Executive, to exercise liberality. His power, however, is limited by the Constitution; and when peace should be made, Congress must necessarily act in regard to appropriations of money and to the admission of representatives from the insurrectionary States. The Richmond party were then informed that Congress had, on the 31st ultimo, adopted by a constitutional majority a joint resolution submitting to the several States the proposition to abolish slavery throughout the Union, and that there is every reason to expect that it will be soon accepted by three-fourths of the States, so as to become a part of the national organic law.

The conference came to an end by mutual acquiescence, without producing an agreement of views upon the several matters discussed, or any of them. Nevertheless, it is perhaps of some importance that we have been able to submit our opinions and views directly to prominent insurgents, and to hear them in answer in a courteous and not unfriendly manner.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, Esq., *&c.*, *&c.*, *&c.*

[No. 208.]

Mr. Adams to Mr. Seward.

No. 871.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
London, February 9, 1865.

SIR: The rebels are so fruitful of schemes of all sorts, and are so apt to be elated by the very last one, notwithstanding all preceding it have failed, that your communication in your despatch No. 1245, of the 23d of January, did not surprise me. The theory broached in the article of the Richmond Sentinel is not novel in my experience in London. I saw it long ago gravely put forth in the columns of an evening paper, as communicated by a correspondent by the name of Cowell; and it has, from time to time, been brought up in the editorial department ever since. The Richmond correspondent of the Times tried it once in that paper. It has made no impression whatever. The device will go the way of its thousand and one predecessors, to oblivion. I was gravely informed the other day that it was reported to be a notion held by Lord Russell. If so, he has taken good care to give no hint of it either in his language or his action. Whatever he may hold as a theory, I have some reason from him to believe that he does not expect that it or anything far stronger will avail the insurgents for long.

There has been another rumor started since, which has been used for a few days to sustain the public confidence in the cotton loan. This is connected with the appearance of Mr. Gwin in Mexico, and the story that he was to be the viceroy of the Emperor Napoleon, who was to receive from Maximilian the cession of the northern States.

The hope here has been that this news, when circulated in the United States, may prompt some hasty and violent conduct in Congress or among the people which will embroil us with the French nation. Of course you will receive more accurate information with respect to this matter from the proper source in France than I can give. But my conviction is that it is a bugbear worked out of the usual thin materials.

The capacity of these men for the intriguing portion of politics is marvellous.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c.*, *&c.*, *&c.*

[No. 209.]

Mr. Adams to Mr. Seward.

No. 880.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
London, February 17, 1865.

SIR: Owing to the delay in the arrival of the Canada, I only, late yesterday, received from the department the despatches numbered from 1247 to 1255, inclusive. * * * * * * * *

The news of a probability of peace, which came by the steamer Canada, spread consternation everywhere. The funds fell, the cotton market was paralyzed, and nothing in the city showed animation except the cotton bonds and the United States stocks. There is a singular delusion prevailing here, that no pacification will be made without a recognition of the confederate loan.

The effect seems to have been much the same at Paris, excepting that the cause of panic was different. There, it was the rumor of the Monroe doctrine being made the basis of union, which is construed as hostility to the French influence in Mexico.

Fortunately for the nerves of all parties, the Canadian steamer came in the very next day, with the quieting intelligence that no result had been arrived at.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

No. 210.

Mr. Adams to Mr. Seward.

No. 884.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
London, February 23, 1865.

SIR: I have just come from an interview with Lord Russell. He was unwell, and received me at his own house. I had asked it for two purposes. One of these was to communicate to him the substance of your despatch No. 1258, and especially to point out to him that portion of it relating to the intimation given by the rebel commissioners of some device to unite the sentiment of both sides on an object not defined, yet not difficult to be conceived. The morning's newspapers, however, contain, among the other intelligence from America, the whole of that despatch as furnished to Congress by the President. I therefore contented myself with a reference to the Times, which his lordship had not yet read, and particularly to the passage alluded to, as exemplifying the intriguing nature of the rebel operations. They endeavor to sow distrust between us and foreign powers by proposing on the one side, as a measure of conciliation, the adoption of a policy which may be inferred to be hostile to them in America, whilst on the other they seek aid and co-operation from them by offering to place themselves in the breach against that same policy which they boldly impute exclusively to us.

The other object of my interview related to the contents of your No. 1256.

* * * * * *

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

No. 211.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams.

No. 1320.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, March 25, 1865.

SIR: Your despatch of the 9th of March, No. 889, has been received.

After collating the speculations of the London Times (to which you have directed my attention) with similar utterances which have been made in Paris, I think I understand the object of the authors.

When the news of our late successes arrived in Europe, accompanied by exaggerated and perverted statements concerning the conference held at Hampton Roads, it was apprehended that a peace would be hurriedly made by agreement. Neither British commercial interests nor the interests of large political parties in Great Britain could accommodate themselves all of a sudden to the cessation of the strife. French politicians thought that the political situation in Mexico would be embarrassed by so sudden and abrupt a termination of our civil war. It must, therefore, be protracted, if possible; and if not, the time must be improved to prepare the European mind for the end. I do not think the strategy is of any serious importance. The war will come to an end neither the sooner nor the later for all that European politicians may think or wish about it, unless there is actual intervention; and that we do not expect to occur. Factious European combinations to embarrass will not affect results depending upon military and political agencies existing here. In the last twelve days I have seen six hundred deserters, veteran soldiers from Lee's army, pass up the avenue to the provost marshal's office and take the oath of allegiance to the United States. The war will come to its end because the rebels are weary of it, but not so soon as we and they wish, or as the enemies of our common country in Europe fear that it will.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, Esq., *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 212.

Mr. Adams to Mr. Hunter.

No. 975.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
London, June 2, 1865.

SIR: Within a couple of weeks there has been a singular attempt at a renewal of the panic in regard to the designs of our government which made the subject of my despatches some time ago.

* * * * * *

If I am right in my statement, it is not, perhaps, unfair to infer here the presence of three threads of influence combined in one cord of intrigue: The first, that of the indefatigable rebel emissaries; the second, that of French-Mexicanism under imperial shelter; the third, that of aristocratic British sympathy with the rebellion.

I shall probably have occasion for some time to come to notice and expose similar schemes. While but little disposed to attach importance to them, or to believe in any chances of their success, I think it my duty to continue to transmit to you the information, in order that you may be placed on your guard and hold in your hands at all times the means of counteracting the false impressions attempted here by such devices.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

WILLIAM HUNTER, Esq.,
Acting Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

FRANCE.

No. 213.

Mr. Dayton to Mr. Seward.

No. 442.] PARIS, *March* 25, 1864.

SIR: Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys informed me yesterday that the negotiation for a loan in behalf of Maximilian, as emperor of Mexico, had been completed on favorable terms, and that he would sail for Mexico on Sunday next.

I regret to learn by the communication you enclosed to me that the power of Mexico is still further enfeebled by faction and division among themselves. There is nothing in the present condition of things there to justify a hope that the republicans of that country can successfully meet the French invading force, aided by factionists at home, and any action at present in that direction by the United States would be sure to embroil us with France. We cannot, under existing circumstances, afford a war with France for the quixotic purpose of helping Mexico. "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM L. DAYTON.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, &c., &c., &c.

No. 214.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Dayton.

No. 525.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, April 7, 1864.

SIR: I have received your despatch of March 25, No. 442, which informs me of the completion of the loan to the Grand Duke Maximilian, and of his anticipated embarcation for Mexico. In order that you may understand the condition of affairs in that country, as fully as they are understood here, I have given you a copy of a communication which has lately been received from our consul at Matamoras.

I give you also, for your information, a copy of a note which has been received from Mr. Geofroy on the subject of the protection which was extended to the consul at that place by Major General Herron, and of my answer to that paper. This correspondence embraces some other incidental subjects. It is proper to say that Mr. Geofroy proposes to communicate to me a statement of another distinct subject of complaint, in regard to proceedings on the frontier, under instructions from Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys, and that I have engaged to bestow due consideration upon it.

I send you a copy of a resolution which passed the House of Representatives on the 4th instant, by a unanimous vote, and which declares the opposition of that body to a recognition of a monarchy in Mexico. Mr. Geofroy has lost no time in asking for an explanation of this proceeding.

It is hardly necessary, after what I have heretofore written with perfect candor for the information of France, to say that this resolution truly interprets the unanimous sentiment of the people of the United States in regard to Mexico. It is, however, another and distinct question, whether the United States would think it necessary or proper to express themselves in the form adopted by the House of Representatives at this time. This is a practical and purely executive

question, and the decision of it constitutionally belongs, not to the House of Representatives, nor even to Congress, but to the President of the United States. You will, of course, take notice that the declaration made by the House of Representatives is in the form of a joint resolution, which, before it can acquire the character of a legislative act, must receive first the concurrence of the Senate, and, secondly, the approval of the President of the United States; or, in case of his dissent, the renewed assent of both houses of Congress, to be expressed by a majority of two-thirds of each body. While the President receives the declaration of the House of Representatives with the profound respect to which it is entitled, as an expression of its sentiments upon a grave and important subject, he directs that you inform the government of France that he does not at present contemplate any departure from the policy which this government has hitherto pursued in regard to the war which exists between France and Mexico. It is hardly necessary to say that the proceeding of the House of Representatives was adopted upon suggestions arising within itself, and not upon any communication of the executive department, and that the French government would be seasonably apprised of any change of policy upon this subject which the President might at any future time think it proper to adopt.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

WILLIAM L. DAYTON, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

Accompaniments:

Mr. Geofroy to Mr. Seward, April 3, 1864.
Mr. Seward to Mr. Geofroy, April 6, 1864.
Resolutions of House of Representatives, April 4, 1864.

No. 215.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.

No. 43.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, February 13, 1865.

SIR: I transmit a copy of a despatch, and of its accompaniments, of the 22d of November last, addressed to this department by F. B. Elmer, esq., United States consul at La Paz, in Mexico, relative to the removal of powder from the United States schooner William L. Richardson, while on a voyage from San Francisco to the mouth of the Colorado river, by the commander of the French war steamer Diamant. The powder referred to is shown by the papers to have been consigned to Paul Heller, at Tucson, in Arizona Territory, and is alleged to have been intended for mining purposes in that Territory.

The belligerent right of the French to prevent contraband of war from reaching Mexican territory during the existence of hostilities in that country may be conceded. That right, however, cannot be allowed to interfere with perfect free trade in all commodities between ports of the United States. You will consequently present this case to Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys, and in your note upon the subject you will say that, if the facts should, upon investigation, turn out to be as set forth in the papers, the value of the powder, and such other reparation as the case may call for, will be expected by this government.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

JOHN BIGELOW, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

[Enclosure No. 1.—Extract.]

Mr. Elmer to Mr. Seward.

No. 8.] UNITED STATES CONSULATE,
La Paz, Mexico, November 22, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to transmit the affidavit of George Goodrum, master of the schooner William L. Richardson, of San Francisco, concerning what I beg leave to express the hope that the government will decide to have been a violation of the rights of neutrals, and a case where ample reparation must be demanded.

I have satisfied myself, after a careful inquiry, that the powder was not to be landed upon the Mexican coast, and was shipped in good faith for a person living at Tucson, Arizona Territory.

Should any other testimony than that contained in the accompanying affidavit be required, I shall be able to forward it, as I have corroborating evidence on file, to be forwarded if called for.

I have retained a copy of the bill of lading, from which I extract the following as pertinent: "Shipped in good order and condition, by J. Underhill & Company, on board the schooner called the William L. Richardson, whereof George Goodrum is master, now lying in the port of San Francisco, and bound for the anchorage at the mouth of the Colorado river, to say, one hundred kegs powder, marked and numbered as in the margin, to wit: 'M. A. D., care J. Capron, Tucson, A. T.' Freight on same, fifty dollars."

I also examined the manifest, and found the entry as stated in Mr. Goodrum's affidavit. The powder was entered as such and consigned in the manner stated.

I also transmit an exact copy of the certificate given by the Frenchman in his own language; also a translated copy.

* * * * * * * * *

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. B. ELMER, *Consul.*

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington City.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

Deposition of George Goodrum.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
La Paz, Mexico, November 2, 1864.

On this second day of November, A. D. 1864, before me, the undersigned, consul of the United States of America for La Paz and the dependencies thereof, there personally appeared George Goodrum, master of the American schooner William L. Richardson, and made oath in due form of law that the following is a true and faithful transcript of the entries in the log-book of said vessel for the period embraced therein; that they were written by his first officer, at his dictation and under his observation, and that the same is a true and faithful record of the proceedings occurring as therein detailed.

The following is the transcript:

"October 30, at 1.30 p. m., on entering the bay of La Paz, we were fired upon by the French war steamer Diamant. We hove our vessel to and set our colors, when an officer from the steamer came on board and demanded our papers, which were shown to him by Captain Goodrum. The officer looked at them for a short time, and then said he would take them on board his own vessel.

Captain Goodrum told him he could not let his papers go, and protested against his taking them. The officer said it was all right, and retained them. He then ordered us to take in sail, and said he would take us in tow. The officer then went on board his own vessel and steered for Pichilque island, about eight miles from La Paz and within the bay, where he came to anchor and ordered us to do the same, which order we were compelled to comply with.

"The officer then returned on board our vessel with the papers and demanded the one hundred kegs of blasting powder that were down on the coasting manifest and cleared from San Francisco for the Colorado river. The officer immediately sent his men into the hold and took out the powder, against which Captain Goodrum protested. The officer then took the powder from our vessel to his own, and sent word that we might go on to La Paz.

"Before leaving, the officer gave the captain two certificates—one in French and the other English, the latter reading as follows:

"'BAY OF LA PAZ, *October* 30, 1864.

"'This is to certify that the one hundred kegs of powder shipped in San Francisco, on the schooner Wm. L. Richardson, to be delivered to Paul Heller, at Fort Yuma, Colorado river, is on this day taken from the vessel by the officer in command of the French war steamer Diamant, and confiscated as contraband of war, and against the protest of the captain, George Goodrum.

"'A. DE LA COUVE,
"'*L' Officer de Service.*'"

And further says that the Wm. L. Richardson was detained by the French steamer some twenty-two hours, besides being delayed two days more in consequence thereof; that the Diamant remained off the harbor of La Paz till the morning of the first of November, and then left.

And further makes oath and says that said powder was placed on board his vessel, as he believes, in good faith, and that it was his intention, in accordance with his instructions and bill of lading, to deliver the same on board the steamboat Esmeralda, in the Colorado river, some miles above its mouth, to be conveyed thence to the consignee thereof, Paul Heller, at Tucson, within the Territory of Arizona; that the Wm. L. Richardson is one of a line of vessels contracted for by Messrs. Wadsworth & Son, of Alta California, to run between the ports of San Francisco, La Paz, Baja, California, and the station within the Rio Colorado, near its mouth, whence passengers and freight for the Territories of Arizona and New Mexico are conveyed as aforesaid, by the steamboat Esmeralda, to Fort Yuma, and to points beyond; that at the time the gun was fired on board the French man-of-war, he was entering the port of La Paz to discharge some ninety tons of freight before proceeding to the mouth of the Colorado to discharge the remainder of his cargo, and was wholly innocent of any design to infringe, or to permit any other, through his agency, to infringe any belligerent regulations, and that no blockade of the harbor of La Paz existed within his knowledge, nor had any notice ever been given that such a thing was contemplated.

He further says that the said powder was entered as such in the usual and proper manner upon the Colorado river manifest.

GEORGE GOODRUM.

Subscribed and sworn to before me the date above written.

F. B. ELMER, *U. S. Consul.*

UNITED STATES CONSULATE,
La Paz, November 20, 1864.

I, the undersigned, consul of the United States of America for La Paz, &c., do hereby certify that the foregoing declaration and affidavit are true and faithful

copies of the original on file in this consulate, the same having been carefully examined by me, and compared with said original, and found to agree therewith, word for word and figure for figure.

Given under my hand and seal of the consulate at La Paz, the day and year above written.

[SEAL.] F. B. ELMER, *U. S. Consul.*

[Enclosure No. 3.—Translation of No. 2.]

PORT OF LA PAZ, MEXICO, *October* 30, 1864.

I declare having seized on board the schooner W. Richardson, Captain George Goodrum, one hundred barrels of powder, against protest of the said captain.

A. DE LA COUVE,
The officer on service.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE,
La Paz, November 22, 1864.

I, the undersigned, consul of the United States of America for La Paz, &c., do hereby certify that the above declaration is a true and faithful copy of the original filed in this office, the same having been compared by me and found to agree therewith, word for word and figure for figure.

[SEAL.] F. B. ELMER, *U. S. Consul.*

No. 216.

Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward.

No. 49.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, March 10, 1865.

SIR: Referring to your despatch No. 43, relative to the removal of one hundred barrels of blasting powder from the United States schooner William L. Richardson, at La Paz, by the commander of a French vessel of war, I have the honor to enclose a copy of a letter on the subject, which I placed in the hands of his excellency the minister of foreign affairs to-day. As the statement of Captain Goodwin is on the files of the State Department, I omit it here.

I am, sir, with great respect, your very obedient servant,

JOHN BIGELOW.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, March 9, 1865.

SIR: It appears from information which has reached my government from F. B. Elmer, United States consul at La Paz, in Mexico, that the United States schooner William L. Richardson was arrested on her voyage from San Francisco to the mouth of the Colorado river on the 30th of October last, and one hundred kegs of blasting powder taken from her hold, by the commander of the French war steamer Diamant, under circumstances which, if correctly reported to us, cannot, I am persuaded, receive the approval of the Emperor's government.

The powder is represented to have been consigned to Paul Hillen, at Tucson,

in Arizona Territory, for mining purposes. It was on board a vessel belonging to a line contracted for to ply between San Francisco, La Paz, Bajir, and the station near the mouth of the Rio Colorado, whence passengers and freight are embarked for Fort Yuma and points beyond in the Territory of Arizona.

The facts, as understood by my government, are fully set forth in the annexed statement, made and sworn to by Captain Goodwin, the master of the William L. Richardson, before the United States consul at La Paz, on the 2d day of November last.

While the United States government is not disposed to contest the belligerent right of France to prevent contraband of war from reaching Mexico during the existing hostilities, it assumes that the Emperor's government will be equally indisposed to interfere with perfect free trade in all commodities between the several ports of the United States.

I have, therefore, to request your excellency to inform me whether the Emperor's government is in possession of any information conflicting with the statement of Captain Goodwin which would invalidate a claim by our government on his behalf for indemnity for the value of the powder taken from his ship and for her detention at La Paz.

I beg to renew to your excellency the assurance of the very distinguished consideration with which I have the honor to be your excellency's very obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN BIGELOW.

His Excellency Mr. DROUYN DE LHUYS,
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Paris.

No. 217.

Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 62.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, March 17, 1865.

SIR: I have but a few minutes left before the closing of the mail to give you the result of a conversation which I held this afternoon with Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys upon topics which have formed a feature in several of your recent despatches.

* * * * * * *

When our conversation, of which, I think, I have given the spirit, had reached this point, I mentioned that I had just received a despatch from you, which treated upon some of the points referred to in our conversation, and, though not instructed to do so, I was at liberty to read it, and felt disposed to do so if his excellency was interested to hear it. He said, of course, that he would be very glad to hear anything from you, and I proceeded to read your despatch of the 27th February.

I may here mention, parenthetically, that in the progress of our conversation, and in reply to his reproaches against the irritating tone and imputations of our press and public men, I said that with us everybody's most idle thought and casual impression might find expression in one way or another through the press; but I ventured to affirm that his excellency had no complaints to make of the government proper. "No," he replied, "our relations with your government have been very well. Mr. Seward has always been very amiable and considerate." But he went on to deprecate the possible consequences of a

public sentiment so prompt as that shadowed forth by the press of the United States to seize upon and miscontrue the motives of the Emperor's government.

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I am, sir, with great respect, your very obedient servant,

JOHN BIGELOW.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, &c., &c., &c.

No. 218.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.

No. 84.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, March 27, 1865.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 10th instant, No. 49, relative to the action of the commander of the French war steamer Diamant in removing a quantity of blasting powder from the United States schooner Wm. L. Richardson, at La Paz. Your proceedings therein mentioned are approved by this department.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

JOHN BIGELOW, Esq., *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 219.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.

No. 96.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, March 30, 1865.

SIR: I enclose a copy of a despatch of the 23d ultimo, No. 57, addressed to me by M. D. L. Lane, esq., the consul of the United States at Vera Cruz, giving a statement of the circumstances connected with a collision between the United States merchant schooner Three Sisters and the French transport ship Alhir, near Cape San Antonio.

You will be pleased to invite the attention of the imperial government to the case thus presented, with a view to such indemnification for the losses entailed upon the citizens of the United States concerned in the vessel and cargo, and such redress for the treatment of the officers and crew of the schooner, as upon investigation may be found to be justly due.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

JOHN BIGELOW, Esq., *&c., &c., &c.*

Mr. Lane to Mr. Seward.

No. 57.] CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Vera Cruz, February 23, 1865.

SIR: I have to inform the department that the American schooner Three Sisters, of Key West, Florida, William Lowe master, was towed into this port on the fourth instant under the following circumstances:

On the 29th of last month, about half past 7 o'clock p. m., while near Cape San Antonio, the said schooner was run into by the French transport ship Alhir

and very badly damaged. Five of the crew, believing the schooner sinking, went on board the Alhir. As soon as it was found the schooner did not sink, they started to return to her, but were arrested by the commander of the transport, Mons. Cuisnier Delisle, and one of them put in double irons. The commander then sent to the schooner and took from her the only remaining seamen, leaving on board the master and a passenger to steer and pump her, as she was making water fast. The day before their arrival in this port the passenger was taken from the schooner; but on the 4th instant, just before entering the harbor, they were all returned to the schooner. After several hours' detention in the harbor by the commander of the transport, because the master would not sign a paper releasing the French commander from all liability resulting from the collision, he was permitted to land. He deposited the register and the crew-list in the consulate. The master and the crew reside at Key West. After hearing their statement, I addressed a note to Mons. Jules Doazan, French consul at this port, repeating the story of the master as substantiated by his crew, and asked his early attention to the case, as, under the circumstances, I should be obliged to hold the French government responsible for the conduct of the commander of the transport, and for whatever loss might be sustained by the collision and by the imprisonment of the crew. I received no reply to this note. On the 9th I called a survey on the schooner by three masters of vessels, who condemned the schooner as entirely unseaworthy, and estimated the cost of repairs at $8,000. The master entered his protest, a copy of which I sent to the French consul, with a note repeating the former notice. No offer of aid or remuneration has been made to the master or crew since their arrival, and no notice whatever taken of the case. The master and crew agree in saying they hailed the transport three times before the collision; that their lights were set, and must have been plainly seen by the transport; that when a change was made by the schooner in her course, in order to avoid the collision, a corresponding change was made by the transport. They all say they believe it was purposely done; and from the course pursued by the authorities since the arrival here, I believe so, too.

The crew came on the consulate for support, but as Captain Lowe had provision on the schooner, I made an agreement for them to stay on board till the 15th instant without any expense to the consulate, when I placed them on board the British bark James Welsh, bound for New York, Master W. Megill, who agrees to land the crew at or near Key West, paying him $20 for each man in gold. I agreed, if he did not stop at Key West to obtain the usual indorsement of the collector, that the certificate of the crew that he had performed his part of the contract satisfactorily would be sufficient. It is not in accordance with the regulations, but I could do no better. There was no American vessel in port, and no other bound in the direction of Key West. I thought it the most economical way to dispose of the crew, who suggested this way of getting home, and I solicit the speedy payment of the sum on presentation of the usual certificate. It is very difficult to get masters of vessels to take seamen home, on account of the difficulty they have in getting the pay from the department. I hope this will prove an exception to the usual rule.

The names of the seamen on board the schooner are Joseph Acosbee, William Lowe, jr., Frank. Whittaker, Robert Matthews, Anthonie Sape, George Randall, all of Key West. The master, Captain Lowe, is still here. He was sole owner of the schooner. As there was no insurance on her the loss falls heavily on him. I did the best I knew in the case. If there is anything more to do in the premises, I await instructions from the department.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

M. D. L. LANE, *U. S. Consul.*

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

No. 220.

Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward.

[Two enclosures.]

No. 75.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, April 17, 1865.

SIR: The "Corps Legislatif" have finally disposed of the amendments proposed to the address from the Throne which related specially to America. The one deploring the blood shed for a foreign prince in Mexico provoked a lengthy and somewhat angry debate, though the opposition was confined exclusively, I believe, to the republican wing of the assembly, neither Berryer nor Thiers speaking or voting. Out of two hundred and forty-one votes, but sixteen voted for the amendment. No different result was to have been anticipated, as the Mexican policy of the government stands more in need than any other, at the present moment, of the unqualified support of the Chambers. A report of this debate translated from the Moniteur will be found enclosed.

The speeches of Messrs. Corta and Rouher show what view the government wishes should be taken of its efforts thus far to found a European dynasty in Mexico. It will be seen that these gentlemen have made the most of the conciliatory tone taken by your representatives abroad in reference to the future of the President's policy toward foreign states in the western hemisphere.

The other amendment, tendering sympathies and thanks to the United States for their efforts in behalf of civil liberty, was not debated. M. Pelletan made a short speech, but the news of Lee's flight, and the evacuation of Petersburg and Richmond, had reached the house only a few moments before he began, and the members were not in the humor at that moment, as you may suppose, to have the relations of France with the United States made the subject of a general discussion. The majority, at least, required time to take counsel before defining their position upon questions which the news of the day rendered more delicate than ever. M. Pelletan, who, I was told, had intended to enter at considerable length into our affairs, found in the events reported by telegraph logic more conclusive than any he had to offer, and so contented himself with a brief amplification of the amendment. After a thrilling allusion to the news, he asked the Chamber to send its felicitations across the Atlantic.

A report of M. Pelletan's speech, translated from the Moniteur, is also enclosed. The amendment received twenty-four votes, eight more than were given for the Mexican amendment.

I am, sir, with great respect, your very obedient servant,

JOHN BIGELOW.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, &c., &c., &c.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

CORPS LEGISLATIF OF FRANCE—SESSION OF THE 10TH APRIL, 1865.

PRESIDENCY OF M. SCHNEIDER, VICE-PRESIDENT.

Debate on the amendment to the address about Mexico.—(Translated from the Moniteur, April 11, 1865.)

President SCHNEIDER: There were two amendments on paragraph sixteen. The modifications demanded for the first amendment having been obtained, it requires no further notice from us; the second remains for consideration. It is presented by Messrs. Bethment, Jules Favre, and others, and is thus expressed:

"In Mexico we more than ever deplore the blood shed for a foreign prince, the national sovereignty unrecognized, and our future policy badly entangled, *(mal engagé.)* In conformity with the declarations of the government we await the recall of our troops." M. Jules Favre has the floor for the development of this amendment.

Gentlemen, said he, I am almost abashed at rising to speak again. [Speak! speak!]

We demand by our amendment that our troops shall be immediately recalled. In the solution of this question the country is deeply interested. I waive as inopportune all discussion upon the origin of the war of Mexico, and I take the facts of the case as they present themselves at this moment.

The emperor Maximilian has founded in Mexico an official empire. I earnestly desire that the condition of the country may permit of a complete pacification, and that a government may there develop the true elements of stability and greatness; but I do not desire that France should contribute to this work, nor that she should lavish her arms and her wealth to sustain a foreign power that ought to stand by its own proper strength.

If we are to believe the articles of the Moniteur, the emperor of Mexico has been received with universal enthusiasm; the whole population hailed him as a saviour. Among the disaffected there were none but brigands and anarchists, who, thank God! were there, as elsewhere, in a very small minority.

Thus everything is going on well, if we judge from the official documents. True, we have not the power to consult other statements; and, inasmuch as nothing relating to this question has been laid before the Chamber, I consider that it has been treated with disrespect. Why this silence? All political documents are our common property.

It is impossible not to remark, that by the side of these official declarations we have others which contradict them, and which affirm that the country has never ceased to be in a state of war.

The first fact that strikes us is, that the emperor Maximilian, ever since he touched the soil of Mexico, has found it impossible to conform to the programme he traced out for himself. You have not forgotten the declaration of Maximilian at Miramar, when he replied to the deputation which came to offer him the crown, that he accepted it, but only upon the condition that he held it by the will of the whole nation. This declaration was also made by the French government. In reference to this the minister of foreign affairs, who was the interpreter of the imperial letter of July 3, 1862, wrote on the 17th of August, 1863: "The government will submit to the Mexican people the question of the political régime, which is to be definitely established."

Upon such promises Maximilian departed; and such are the conditions enjoined upon him by France. These conditions are succinctly insisted on by the despatch of 17th of August, 1863. The orator read an extract from this despatch which set forth the manner in which the Mexican people should be called to give their verdict, so that there might be no shadow of a doubt as to the expression of the will of the nation.

Nowhere, continued the orator, could we find more reasonable words, but they seem to be dictated by honorable and very singular illusions, since the minister who wrote them supposed that no sooner should the emperor Maximilian arrive at Mexico than he would be greeted by a submissive and sympathetic nation, and that there was nothing to do but to apply to the rural magistrates *(gardes champêtres)* to insure the elections. [Noise.]

Unhappily this was not the case, and it will be interesting to place, not the entire truth, since we are not able to get at that, but a few figures alongside of the letter which states the indispensable conditions for the establishment of the new government.

The honorable member read a document from which it appeared that, during

the year 1864, there were 8,070 men put *hors de combat*, 1,601 of whom were killed; 179 cannon had been taken by the French, as also 2,630 muskets and 1,400 horses. Such, gentlemen, was, in 1864, the state of a country that they called, and still continue to call, pacified. I will not present to the Chamber the sorrowful episodes, the deeds of arms in which French blood so freely flowed, the treachery of certain Mexicans who, after having betrayed their country, betrayed the Frenchmen of their party, basely abandoning them, and delivering them into the hands of their countrymen.

These facts prove that Mexico is still in a state of war; and this is yet further proved by the siege of Oajaca, where Marshal Bazaine has been obliged to go, which has been attended by much sacrifice, and has ended in the taking of some thousands of men. I ask the government if it desires such a position of affairs to continue, if it intends to prolong such expeditions; for not only have we gone to Monterey, but I believe I speak the truth when I say that preparations are now making for an expedition into Sonora.

Now, whoever is acquainted with the province knows that there are difficulties there which, if not insurmountable for our courageous soldiers, are, at least, very terrible for them. What business have we to put ourselves in such a situation? Is that what we have been promised? Should not the emperor Maximilian, once placed upon the throne, be able to defend himself? Moreover, what does all this mean?

We proclaim the principle of nationalities in Germany and in Italy, and just now an honorable member of the majority reproached me for not having laid sufficient stress on this. And we went to Mexico to establish a government by the sword; when it was established, instead of recalling our army we place ourselves in the alternative of a disaster, or of an interminable war against the peoples who may continually present themselves upon the field of battle. In fact, not only do the documents attest that Mexico is not pacified, that the declarations of the government are contrary to truth, but the partisans of Maximilian acknowledge that the present army is indispensable to the maintenance of his power, and that it is even necessary to augment its proportions.

The orator read a fragment of an article taken from an official journal of Mexico, which speaks of the ill usage that the friends of the new régime are likely to experience, and which ill usage will have a tendency to abate the devotion of the partisans of the empire, and to hinder the populations to co-operate actively in the work of pacification. The writer of the article thinks it will be necessary to maintain a French army of 45,000 men in Mexico. This, gentlemen, is what has been printed under the eyes of the emperor Maximilian, and this is the family council which is indispensable for him to maintain himself upon the throne and to enable him to exercise his guardianship over Mexico. [Different movements. Approbation from some benches.]

This must be energetically confuted here. In the commissions of supplementary credits last year it was said that at the end of the year there should not be a French soldier in Mexico. This promise has shared the fate of many others; I will not say ministerial, but human promises. It must, however, be fulfilled, for it would be deceiving the Chamber and the country to protest that we were concentrating around Mexico, while we were undertaking to conquer by armed force a country ten times larger than France, and where the guerillas, who are the strength of the nation, and in whom its patriotism has taken refuge. [Loud disapprobation.]

His Excellency M. Rouher, minister of state. Do not speak of brigands in such terms.

M. Garnier Pages. They said also "brigands of the Loire in 1815."

Mr. Piccione. I ask to speak against the amendment.

Mr. Jules Favre. We have the right to say that, since the government pretends that Mexico is pacified, and that Maximilian is hailed by the popular sym-

pathy, it shall no longer maintain around his throne a force which might be so necessary to France.

I conclude by calling the attention of all thinking men who hear me to a danger apparent to all, and which is too serious to be slighted.

In 1862, when the expedition was in process of formation, I took the liberty of warning the Chamber of the dangers and contingencies which might arise from a contest with the United States.

It is difficult to imagine how deeply the American heart has been wounded by our expedition to Mexico. And may we not fear that at the termination of a terrible, a gigantic war, which has called all men of action to the battle-field, their armies, disbanded by peace, should rush into Mexico? Let our troops return, then; let them return then immediately. It is the desire of all France, and we ask of you to fulfil it. [Approbation from several benches.]

President SCHNEIDER. M. Corta has the floor. [Movement of attention.]

Mr. CORTA. The Chamber will, I hope, permit me to say a few words about Mexico. Having been honored with a mission to that country, I come to bear witness of what I have seen. I must premise that the impressions which I bring thence do not agree with what the last speaker has just said.

The Hon. M. Jules Favre declared that he would not go back to the origin of the expedition, but would confine himself to existing facts. On this point I will follow his example.

He has examined the situation of Mexico in regard to its present sovereign; in regard to its pacification; in regard to our army; in a word, in regard to the contingencies of war with the United States. Before following him into these different questions, I ask the permission of the Chamber to lay before it a few preliminary observations. It seems to me that the first question to examine is, what faith can be placed in the future of Mexico? A Frenchman who had lived a long time in that country once said to me, "I have seen so many successive revolutions in Mexico; I have so often seen the country ready to fall, and yet recover itself, that even before the intervention I said to myself, Mexico cannot perish. And indeed this country, even in the midst of its disturbances, had always a principle of vitality which gave sure promise for its future destiny."

What are the causes of this vitality? In the first place, its extent is, not as M. Jules Favre said, ten times, but three times and a half as large as France; situated in the centre of America, touching the north on one side and the south on the other, and washed by two oceans, this country unites all the advantages of geographical position to a soil of universal fertility.

The subsoil is so rich that, at the time when the treasures of Mexico were being spread through the entire world, Humboldt said these riches had scarcely begun to be developed, and this opinion has been confirmed by the testimony of the celebrated engineer, M. Lam, who went from France to Mexico.

Mexico is, therefore, a highly favored country, in an agricultural and commercial point of view. Having thus shown its natural advantages, let us now see what man has done for it.

When Fernando Cortez conquered Mexico, he overthrew not only the throne of Montezuma, but a civilization the importance of which is attested by history, by tradition, and by monuments still extant in the country. What has been substituted for this civilization? The Spaniards gave Mexico Catholicism, without themselves following its precepts. The natives were excluded from all public offices; certain branches of industry and knowledge were closed to them, in the interest of commerce and the church. Spain, in short, did not restrict herself to drawing from Mexico the silver that she scattered over the whole earth; she levied from its products in order to aliment her colonial budgets, and to raise immense sums of money, which she poured into her treasury at Madrid. During all this time nothing was undertaken in Mexico for its own

interest, but solely for that of Spain; then came its independence proclaimed in 1810, and realized in 1820.

What was this independence and for whose profit was it declared? The Spaniards left behind them in Mexico the old natives, the Indians, whom they had long enslaved, but who were submissive and resigned; a race somewhat weak, but industrious and intelligent, impenetrated with the sentiment of religion and the love of home.

The Indians formed four-fifths of the population. The Spaniards thus left behind them a new people, born of their admixture with the natives, the Mexicans properly so called.

For whose profit was the independence proclaimed? For the profit of the great majority of the population? No; but for a Mexican oligarchy, divided into two pretty nearly equal parties, the liberals and the conservatives, who were constantly fighting with each other, sword in hand, for the supremacy, oppressing the Indians and pillaging the people they were appointed to govern. Thus with the Spaniards came tyranny; with independence, anarchy; nature had done everything for the prosperity of the country, but man seemed bent on its ruin. It has not perished, it has not even feebly prospered. The reason is, that outside the Mexican oligarchy the Indians, a patient and tenacious race, have never ceased to labor, and that foreigners have continued their traffic, which consists in the exchange of the mineral productions of Mexico against the fabricated productions of Europe.

Is a nation which has resisted oppression and anarchy, and which possesses a most fertile soil, capable of prosperity? The reply cannot be dubious. To rise again it needs but two things—a regular government and time. [Very good, very good.] It unquestionably has a regular government. From Vera Cruz to Mexico the progress of the emperor Maximilian has been a triumph. To the Indian he is the man coming from the east, with blue eyes and golden hair, who is to regenerate the country.

The Indians have, therefore, with a sort of innocence, but with genuine enthusiasm, hailed the emperor Maximilian as a deliverer.

The clerical conservatives, who form a half of the Mexican element, have rallied around him, as have also those moderate men among the liberals who have become tired of civil war and are persuaded that the republican form of government is not suited to the interest of the country. This majority of the Mexican element has hailed the empire as the only hope of the nation, its only anchor of salvation. A solitary group of men has held itself aloof; for these men civil war is a necessity, a habit, an existence, and like Porfirio Dias, at Oajaca, they will not throw down their arms until they are forced to surrender at discretion.

Such are the sentiments which greeted the emperor Maximilian. It may be said that upon his arrival in Mexico he was crowned by the universal suffrage of the people, who called him to reign over them. [Very good, very good.]

The orator gave a full *exposé* of the earliest acts of the government of the emperor Maximilian for the reorganization of the finances, the military affairs, public instruction, and the administration of justice in the empire; also for regulating the delicate question of the goods of the clergy. He entered into circumstantial details upon the financial situation of the country; upon the resources which could be looked for from taxation and the mines—resources considerable in themselves, but which would not exempt the government from the necessity of raising loans; upon the foreign debt of Mexico, the operations of which are regularly carried on; upon its internal debt, consisting of bonds issued by the different governments which have succeeded one another.

The lateness of the hour obliged the honorable member to defer the remainder of his speech until to-morrow. The séance was closed at twenty minutes six.

M. CORTA. In yesterday's session, gentlemen, I exhibited Mexico, with all its vitality—its financial resources, its popular government, and the prosperity which a regular administration and time guarantee to it; for time is of necessity the auxiliary of all great things. To this picture I would make but one addition. I wish to speak of the popular current which begins to set towards Mexico. Foreign capital, and emigrants who possess a keen scent for political affairs, are now to be found in Mexico. A national bank has been established, and its immunities have been granted to influential and distinguished houses in France and England; grants have also been made for the construction of numerous railroads. The most important of these grants, viz., for the line to run between Vera Cruz and Mexico, has been given to a very large English company having a capital of 135,000,000, and who are able to send on 15,000 laborers to carry on the work. Besides all this, there are grants for the line of steam packets in the Gulf of Mexico, and along the shores of the Pacific, as well as for the working of different kinds of mines. The Chamber will see clearly that foreign capital and foreign settlers, who have had grants of land made to them, will not be kept away from Mexico on account of the threatening contingencies to which the honorable M. Jules Favre alluded in his speech yesterday. I take up the question which he raised—the question of the pacification of Mexico—from the point of view of the return of our army.

The duration of this pacification is explained by the extent of the Mexican territory, and by the half century of war and anarchy which has reigned upon this territory. The end of the pacification has been found subordinate to facts which I ask leave to point out. The principal fact is the occupation of the seaports. A number of these ports, either on the Gulf of Mexico or on the Pacific, were occupied until lately by Juarez or his partisans; they collected the revenues of several custom-houses, and with these resources they maintained their corps d'armée. An insurrectionary body, compelled to take its subsistence from the country in which it lives, renders itself odious by the requisitions it is forced to make, and recruiting itself at the expense of the country, it quickly exhausts itself in exhausting the country. Therefore external revenues were necessary for the support of the insurgents, and I regret to say that, until lately, such resources have been left at their disposal. But at present, thanks to the co-operation of the land and sea forces, all the ports of the Atlantic and Pacific are occupied either by our troops or by those of the emperor Maximilian. The insurgents are deprived of the seaboard—that is, of the means of obtaining supplies, and hence one of the causes, in fact the principal cause, of the duration of the insurrection no longer exists.

The political situation of Mexico furnishes another fact to which the pacification was also subordinate. The Chamber knows that Mexico, after having vainly entreated Europe for kings, formed itself into a republic—now federative, then military, and then again federative. Under the rule of the federative republic several provinces declared themselves independent; they established mints and arsenals in some of the principal localities. These arsenals, containing considerable supplies and munitions of war, were so many torches ready to kindle insurrection. It is also to be observed that in Mexico the pronunciamientos, which have been followed by revolutions, have always come from the provinces to invade the capital! Well, when Oajaca was captured, with all the inhabitants and property it contained, I think the last military arsenal of the insurrection was destroyed. Juarez took refuge in Sonora, abandoning his baggage and part of his treasure. I am ignorant whether or not he has been able to procure fresh military supplies, or raise new recruits. It is possible that an expedition against him may move toward Sonora; if so, I do not think it will meet with serious resistance, and I am convinced it will be the last expedition undertaken.

Another fact in the light of the pacification of brigandage arises from the state

of perpetual war and the predominance of armed force in Mexico. The country people, and even the inhabitants of towns, unarmed, without protection from government, and living far apart, have contracted the fatal habit of allowing themselves to be robbed, without making resistance; from this have resulted encouragement to brigandage and impunity to crime. In order to remedy these evils, the Mexican government formed a country police, *(gardes rurales,)* commanded by captains named by the emperor, and composed of the best elements of the old Mexican army. The best results may be hoped from the institution of this police force. Thus, from the point of view of military pacification, of the suppression of a possible though slight resistance at the extreme north of Mexico, and in the light of the pacification of brigandage, there is a prospect of peace and quiet at a more or less distant period.

But, gentlemen, even when a great incendiary is extinguished, it must be watched, lest it break forth again. In presence of the elements of disorder which the civil war has left in Mexico, and taking into consideration the revolutionary principles rife in the Mexican army, a disciplined army, faithful and devoted to its duty and its flag, is still needful in Mexico, not only to sustain the institutions of the nation, but to insure its safety; and this army should be a European one. [Movement.] Should this European army be a French army? Ought the French army be still maintained in Mexico? The authors of the amendment demand the immediate return of the army. This is not admissible. In fact, to recall our army would be to compromise the work just begun; and, in case of the overthrow of that work, to expose our policy to the ridicule of Europe. To recall our army—that is to say, to abandon those who have accepted the intervention, and have rallied around the throne, to expose them to the consequences which might follow such a proceeding, would be to commit an act unworthy of France. In the place of our flag too hastily furled, France would leave her honor sullied. France may be asked to sacrifice her wealth, but her honor never. [Very good, very good.]

But, gentlemen, as the foreign legion and the auxiliary corps of Belgians and Austrians—Austrians who have already given proofs of their bravery and firmness—become developed, and the empire consolidated, the French army can be gradually reduced and finally withdrawn. Our flag should never cease to wave in Mexico until all the advantages that France upholds there are guaranteed and sure. Shall our flag be furled before the chances of a war that may result from peace in the United States? This is the last question examined yesterday by our honorable colleague, Mr. Jules Favre, and upon which I asked permission to express the opinion that I had gathered in Mexico. In that country these chances preoccupy the public mind much less than in Europe. I will quote the opinion of General Smith, when, in 1847, he occupied the city of Mexico. After General Jackson's expedition, he was asked if the United States intended to keep Mexico for themselves; he replied, "Why should they! Mexico is an old country, having its own religion, its own customs; its population, though thin, is scattered over its whole extent. The United States want deserts to people and virgin soil to work, upon which their institutions may readily be implanted. Mexico is not to our taste, and deserts and waste lands abound in America."

Since these words were uttered, Sonora and the unsold property of the clergy have been offered to the United States by President Juarez, for seventy-five million (francs?) but the American government and the present Chief Magistrate have refused to negotiate, though thrice urged by Juarez. But will the proclivities of the United States government be modified hereafter? And first, in what concerns the president of the south, Mr. Davis, it is only necessary to turn to his message of 1863 to see that he completely recognizes what has been established in Mexico, and that he desires to entertain none but friendly relations with its new government. This is what he says: "MEXICO.—The events of the year that has just passed away have produced important changes in the con-

dition of our neighbor at the south. The occupation of the capital of Mexico by the French army, and the establishment of a provisory government, followed by a radical change in the constitution of the nation, have excited the most lively interest. Always preferring our own government and institutions to those of other countries, we have no inclination to deny them the exercise of the same right of self-government that we claim for ourselves; if the Mexican people prefer a monarchy to a republic, it is clearly our duty to acquiesce heartily in their decision, and to manifest a sincere and friendly interest for its prosperity." And there is no reason to believe that the disposition of the government of the United States differs from these sentiments.

But it is objected, when peace is declared what will become of the immense armies that have been raised?

I am aware, gentlemen, that this is a problem more difficult to resolve than the one of which Cæsar speaks, when he says, that it is only necessary to stamp with your foot upon the soil of Italy to make an army spring up. More difficult than that is to cause an immense army to return to the ranks of society; but in Mexico—for I repeat, I bring here only the opinions I have heard in Mexico—the solution of this problem is deemed much more easy in the United States than in Europe. In fact, the rights of labor open the way to various careers, which are not closed up, as in Europe, by the clergy. Besides, in the south, the army is not composed of mercenaries. It is in some sort a national army, which, after having laid down its arms, will soon return home and resume its ordinary occupations. In the north, the army is composed principally of mercenaries, but of mercenaries whose services have been rewarded by bounties of money and of land. All the soldiers of the northern army are, therefore, landholders, and, gentlemen, landholders do not generally become adventurers.

But is it indeed true that the army of the United States will cease to exist after peace is established? There is reason to believe, supposing the Union to be restored, that in the face of the agitated south and of Canada up in arms, the government at Washington will feel the need of maintaining a standing army; in this case, the remains of the present army will enter the ranks of that one which will then be formed.

Another consideration which I have heard put forth would result from the situation in which the United States government would be placed after the pacification; this government will find that it has heavy damages to repair, and an immense deficit to fill up. Under such circumstances, gentlemen, war cannot be undertaken; therefore, in view of the future government of the United States, the chance of a war does not appear to be strong.

But it is said adventurers, led by another Walker, may attack Mexico. In the first place, gentlemen, it is not conquest from a political motive, but plunder, which is the aim of adventurers. Now if adventurers do spring up in the United States they will have conquests to make far more tempting than that of Mexico; Canada on the one hand, and the opulent Havana on the other. But how should these adventurers attack Mexico? by land? It is well known how precipitately General Jackson concluded a peace with Mexico, and under what conditions the expedition was formed. General Jackson's expedition cost the United States two years in time, and five hundred million francs in money. Would it be possible for adventurers to undertake such an expedition by land, across deserts, where they would have to bring with them all their provisions and munitions of war, and also be obliged to await the rainy season in order to continue their march? By land it is impossible; by water a pretty large expedition—and that is the only kind to be feared—could be kept under the eyes of nations so watchful over the seas, and Europe would not look with indifference upon such enterprises. I therefore believe, gentlemen, that there is nothing to fear from Mexico, from the contingencies which have been mentioned, and I will now conclude with one reflection.

Our expedition to Mexico was undertaken in the midst of a revolution, brought about by science before our eyes. At the present day, steam and electricity annihilate distances, bring nations, so to speak, in contact with each other, by land and sea, with their various wants, interests, passions, chances of disagreement, and also happily place them in strict community of ideas and sentiments, which clearly demonstrate it to be much more the interest of nations to aid one another mutually than to fight together; the prosperity of one nation is increased by the prosperity of the others. A striking example of this is, on the one hand, the beneficial rivalry of France and England in peace, and, on the other, the war in the United States, which not only has disturbed all Europe, but has also caused it to experience an immense commercial and manufacturing crisis. Well, in the midst of this novel situation, with the prospect of the nations of the world being drawn more closely together, and with the chances of peace and war, what will be the scope of the Mexican expedition? The future will tell us in estimating its results. As for us, while waiting for history to write the page consecrated to this expedition, what duty does our conscience impose on us? This duty has always appeared and still appears to me very plain; our flag is pledged; where our flag is, there is France, and we owe it our support. It is for this reason, gentlemen, that we are now in Mexico; it is for this reason that I vote for the rejection of the amendment proposed to you.

[Very good! very good! numerous signs of approbation.]

President SCHNEIDER. Mr. Picard has the floor.

Mr. ERNEST PICARD. Whatever legitimate authority, gentlemen, may belong to the words of our honorable colleague, and the mission with which he has been honored, I must declare frankly to the house, that his speech, to which I listened with the most lively attention, did not convince me, [laughter,] and I will add, it cannot convince me. This question, gentlemen, demands from you in its discussion the greatest possible attention; the sentiments which animate us all are drawn together in questions of this nature, and public opinion is more pressing, and more severe than ever upon the topic of our political conduct in Mexico. I will add that, in my opinion, there is, perhaps, no other question in which our concurrence will exercise a more salutary influence upon the interests of our country. It is in our power, at least I have a pride in thinking so, to disentangle the political situation in which our government is now placed. It depends upon you, if you have the will to do this, to have also the power. It depends upon you to do in 1865 that which we entreated you to do in 1862, at the time when this grave and formidable (*redoubtable*) question first arose in this assembly, and I willingly take up the words which my honorable colleague, Mr. Corta, has just uttered, when, in examining the eventualities which might seem to menace us from the United States, he presented them to you in a still distant horizon. It is not, therefore, too late; for the rest no one would ask of the Chamber or of the government to adopt a policy contrary to the honor of France, and me less than any one. [Whisperings.] But we may ask you to adopt a course in conformity with her policy and her duty. [Very good, from around the speaker; murmurs from several benches.]

You have heard what the honorable Mr. Corta has told you. I confess that in listening to his speech two sentiments have been excited in my breast—a sentiment of fascination and a sentiment of fear; yes, his speech fascinated me. Our honorable colleague has brought back from Mexico images the most brilliant; he has sought to gild his words with a beam of that sun he has just left, [laughter and noise;] he has represented Mexico as a land of promise; the emperor Maximilian, that young man with golden locks and azure eyes [exclamations]—I quote his words, gentlemen, [various interruptions]—as the saviour come from the east, and promised to the Indians.

I am astonished, gentlemen, at the impression these words of his produce upon you; I am astonished that you do not recall the events which took place

at the setting out of the expedition. Do you imagine that the government, before sending its troops to Mexico and seeking there what it has not yet found, had not obtained information on the subject from men of intelligence who have lived in Mexico, and who with an equal good faith, an equal sincerity, made similar statements? And we know now how a people colder than we are, and a government less impassioned than our own, appreciates in the despatches which figure among the official documents the statements which come from Mexico. We believed the statements we received, and off we started; we are now in Mexico, and we must quit it—we must quit it, gentlemen. The honorable Mr. Corta has told you so. However fascinating may be the situation, that part of his speech which caused him the most uneasiness was the conclusion. And he did not dissimulate to the Chamber that had he found means which in his eyes would have been honorable to leave Mexico, he would have been the first to join with me in advising to leave it. He would be the first to do so, in spite of the marvellous narrations he has presented to the Chamber. He has told you of the fertility of the soil of Mexico, of the future that is in store for its finances. He has told you of this, gentlemen, but all this is only a personal appreciation, emanating, it is true, from a man to whom I willingly offer my homage, but which does not suffice to convince a great assembly upon so momentous a question. [Murmurs.] It is of this assembly—it is of the honorable Mr. Corta himself that I would ask if he concurs with Marshal Forey, who says: "Yes, unfortunately, everything in Mexico requires remodelling; the moral sense of the country is completely perverted. There is no longer any administration, any justice, any army, any national industry, any anything, so to speak. This is not the fault of the nation." [Interruption.]

Mr. CHAGOR. Before our advent.

A MEMBER. The date?

Mr. ERNEST PICARD. The date of the speech of Marshal Forey? The 19th of March, 1865. If everything in Mexico is to be remodelled, you will readily admit with me that the situation is not encouraging, nor the time propitious for the loan which is announced to us. If all in Mexico is to be remodelled—if the opinion of Marshal Forey does not coincide with that of our honorable colleague, who will give the casting vote? Who will come here in obedience to the first of all duties, and in face of this assembly furnish us with official documents, which may be checked, examined, discussed? The government. The duty is undeniable. The entire nation is awaiting the day when the government shall submit to the free examination of the majority and of the minority these documents which it has not yet produced. And where are these documents? Of all political questions, the one which, perhaps, possesses the greatest interest at this moment for France is the Mexican question. Of all questions—I except Algeria—that one concerning which we do not possess a single document is the Mexican question. Not a single document. Not a single one. On all other subjects we have had distributed among us, more or less generally, documents, despatches, reports. Upon this subject there has been an absolute silence. We are often told that in France the discussions held in this assembly can replace those liberties which we lack—[Denials from several benches; approbation from others]—and that by carefully examining and checking the affairs of our country we can offer our fellow-citizens those guarantees which they sought in nominating us. But how can a discussion be really serious which lacks a basis? Is it possible, whatever authority may belong to the words of my honorable colleague, is it possible, I repeat, for us to discuss upon words, which, though certainly sincere, are but the expression of the personal opinion of a single man?

This, then, is the situation in which we find ourselves; for upon this subject I have not yet seen the slightest explanation on the part of the government. It must be very grave, indeed, gentlemen, this Mexican question, since it is proposed to discuss it in this manner. What are the reasons why we are left in

silence and obscurity in a matter which demands explanations and light? They are twofold. In the first place, the government—and I know not why it should be so in a great country and before a nation like France, where nothing honors more, both those who speak and those who listen, than the truth—the government, I say, wishes to keep us under the empire of illusions the most complete—illusions which the government itself does not entertain. [Reclamations.]

The MINISTER OF STATE. I ask for the floor.

Mr. ERNEST PICARD. The government tells us the country is pacified. It is not pacified. It tells us our troops are about to be recalled. And yet the honorable Mr. Corta himself has just told us, in his sincerity, that our troops are on the point of marching to conquer Sonora.

Mr. BELMONTET. He did not say so.

Mr. ERNEST PICARD. He said the conquest of Sonora was about to be accomplished.

Mr. CORTA. I did not say that. I confined myself to the interrogation, "Is there an expedition preparing to enter Sonora? If so, I believe two things: one, that the expedition will not meet with any serious obstacle; the other, that such expedition will be the last." That is what I said.

Mr. ERNEST PICARD. I say that the country is not pacified; that the ovations of which we have heard may without doubt have occurred at certain points; but that the feeling of resistance is still very powerful in Mexico. [Reclamations.] And I will give immediate proof of what I say. What is the position which you occupy toward the Mexicans, upon whom you do not wish to impose a government, but merely to become acquainted with their free wishes?

The Moniteur is subject to slips as well as the other journals, and I therefore cannot tell whether or not it was in accordance with the wishes of the government that it published the decree that I am about to submit to you, as furnishing the only reply I shall make to this part of my honorable colleague's speech. The Monterey expedition had taken place. The general entered the city. He delivered it from the yoke of its oppressors. The respectable citizens gathered around the French commander, who proceeded to install the municipal power. But though no armed resistance was made, still, since all this was occurring in a country which our honorable colleague has so well named a vivacious country, and which proves its vitality by resisting a foreign invasion, a vague sentiment of opposition manifested itself, the existence of which is demonstrated by the following decree:

"General Castagny, commanding the first division of the Franco-Mexican army, being charged with the reconstruction of the municipal authority of the city of Monterey, decrees:

"ART. 1. Pending ratification by the government of the emperor Maximilian, ——— ——— is named provisional prefect of the district; ——— ———, substitute; ——— ———, alcalde, &c.

"ART. 2. Any person designated in the preceding article who refuses to fulfil the functions confided to him shall be immediately punished by six months' imprisonment, conformably with the law."

We have here, gentlemen, a sort of press-gang for functionaries. I do not wish to speak of it with levity, for that would subject me to the remonstrances of the minister of state; and I wish in a question of such gravity to merit, at least, his testimony that I have treated the subject as he desires it should be treated. What does this impressment of functionaries prove? Simply that resistance was universal, and that the ovations were only offered along the route followed by our honorable colleague, who was attached to the person of the sovereign and surrounded by *cortége*. But this is not all, gentlemen. How were you received by those who summoned you to Mexico? And herein lies my reply to what the honorable Mr. Corta said, when, after crying out that honor forbade France to abandon Mexico, he said that if we abandoned it we

should leave there our partisans exposed to the malice of the reaction. It is we who are exposed to the malice of our partisans, as you will be in a way to judge from a document which it was not seen fit to submit to us, and we were obliged to hunt up among the official publications. In this document we find the following, where General Negre, commandant of the department of Mexico, writes to Archbishop Labastide: "Incendiary writings are slipped under the doors into the houses. The authors of this culpable manifestation seek to excite vile material interest, which our holy religion repudiates, and to invoke the most detestable passions against the army of the Emperor. I am pleased to believe, monseigneur, that your excellency is ignorant of these criminal manœuvres; I therefore point them out to you," &c. The general concludes by requesting the archbishop to suppress these measures. The archbishop replies: "It is an attested fact, and one of public notoriety, that we have all protested against the two individuals who have the pretension to be a government."

These "two individuals," gentlemen, were not the authors of the incendiary publications.

SEVERAL VOICES. We cannot hear. Louder!

Mr. ERNEST PICARD. It is against the government that the archbishop protests—against the government that we have erected. The archbishop continues: "And against the circulars of the 9th November and the 15th December of last year, declaring categorically that the church, in the plenitude of her immunities, of her rights, is subjected at this moment to the same attacks she had to sustain under the Juarez government, and that never has she seen herself persecuted with greater bitterness. In consequence of the position in which we have been placed, we find ourselves worse off than at that time. Your excellency will therefore perceive that the two documents (our protestation and our letter) contain two propositions relative to the position of the church and her pastors entirely contradictory, the one to the other. One is necessarily true and the other false."

And which was the proposition necessarily true? That one only which is contained in the letter of which I have just quoted a passage, but which also claims the responsibility of the following quotation:

"Who could have thought that the first steps on both sides would lead to the maintenance of infamous laws, called laws of reform, decreed by the demagogy?" And thus, gentlemen, you are styled demagogues.

His Excellency M. ROUHER, minister of state. Does that please you?

Mr. ERNEST PICARD. I continue the quotation: "Who among you can imagine that the men who have pilfered the power will be unmindful of the religious and patriotic party, and that they will go so far as so take from that party its respectable members, treat them with contempt, and even to threaten them with the severest punishment? Who would think that they could push presumption and impudence so far as to side with the fallen party, and protect laws which have thrown such disrespect and outrage upon the ministers and virgins of the Lord? Who is there among you, no matter how limited may be his intelligence, who has not understood that the regents-general of the intervention are the bitterest enemies of religion and order?" You see how you are treated by those men who have called upon you—those men of consideration, whose sentiments I have just made known to you, and one of whom, if I mistake not, belongs to the provisional government you have established down there—M. la Bastida. I do not intend to read the entire document, but I merely wished to lay a sample of it before you. And now I hope the honorable Mr. Corta will permit me to ask him, is he very sure that he saw everything? He certainly understood all that he saw, but he has not seen all that he could understand. [Movement.]

DIFFERENT VOICES. And you, what have *you* seen? what have you been able to understand?

Mr. Ernest Picard. The second reason why I fear the government has left us in darkness is one which must be a still more painful one for it: it is that, behind all the brilliant explanations which the government will not fail soon to make, with all the talent of him who shall make them, I place a financial conclusion, viz: that the emperor Maximilian and his government will again make a demand upon the credit and funds of France. It is this, perhaps, which will explain to you why it was not thought proper to submit to our inspection those budgets, those custom-house systems, the brilliant mirage of which dazzled our eyes at the last session. I willingly bow before the financial superiority of our honorable colleague. I know he has often been one of the most experienced authorities on our budget commissions; and when he reports upon a budget, after having seen what he relates, I readily believe his word. When he makes here a Mexican report, [rumors,] a report on Mexican finance, I hesitate to give him the same confidence, and I think it my strictest duty, in the name of my constituents, to come here, and, as far as I am able, examine the documents and figures which are placed before us.

The Marquis de Pere. There is no Mexican deputy here.

M. Ernest Picard. I have not understood the interruption.

President Schneider. Do not stop for interruptions.

M. Ernest Picard. I regret, gentlemen, to say it, but the figures which you have heard to-day are not of a nature to inspire confidence in the hearts of future subscribers. The subscribers to the first loan have seen this loan, issued at the rate of sixty-three francs, fall in a few days ten and twelve francs—fall, I think, even as low as forty-eight francs, and at the present moment rise to fifty-two francs. So that small capitalists, owners of small incomes, attracted by the high rate of interest, believing the government to be morally responsible for an issue made, so to speak, under its patronage, and which may be sanctioned by official discourses pronounced here, [denials from several benches,] may have to be saved by a second loan. But you will agree that the way to restore the equilibrium of our finances is not to unite them more closely than is proper, in these circumstances, to the Mexican finances. I add, that it appears to me contrary to all rules of moral and political economy that the government should favor (I use expressly no other word) combinations which are forbidden, interdicted to private individuals. What does it accomplish in this first loan? It authorizes this borrower, called the Mexican government, which cannot give sufficient security to its creditors to insure their receiving the interest of the sum, but to place in the office of deposits and consignments four semisties of arrearages. Thus it does what would not be allowed to the smallest commercial company, viz: pay the interest of the loan out of the capital; so that, at the end of two years, those who have not been so prudent as to withdraw from the consequences of such a financial affair will find themselves confronted by an empty treasury, and having no other guarantee than the henceforth well-known bonds of the Mexican loan. Complaints have been made about this, gentlemen, and I have in my hand documents which show these complaints to have been energetic. For instance, one of these subscribers in a paper which has, I think, been distributed to you all, and the authority of which I do not otherwise guarantee. [Laughter and exclamations.]

M. Rouher, minister of state. What authority, before the Chamber, can a document have which you do not guarantee?

M. Ernest Picard. The government will explain itself. Here is what I find in this document: "Perhaps the subscribers to the loan will have more real causes of grievance in the facts accomplished during the operation, properly so called, of its issue. The rumor spread abroad of a more than filled-up subscription, corroborated by considerable purchases made the day before, and the very day of the closing of the subscription list, up to one and a half per cent. profit; the irregular delay in announcing the allotments, whilst it was publicly given

out that there would be a considerable reduction upon applications already made—all this has certainly contributed to swell the number of applicants, and prevent subscribers from extricating themselves, in leaving the market open to those only who were acquainted with the true position. Whence proceeded these false reports? Whence came these purchases? It is not the purpose of this document to seek the answer. It suffices to state the share of influence they have exercised. Thus much is certain, that while the loan could be subscribed to with one per cent. discount for brokerage, purchases with premium were made one day on a very large scale—not by hundreds of francs of capital, but by hundreds of thousands of francs of interest all at once; that it would be easy, by tracing up the bonds delivered, to discover by whom these purchases were effected; that they stopped as soon as the subscription was closed; that they were forced to believe the loan entirely filled up at the risk of entering into explanations rather too delicate; and that, lastly, subscribers have determined by this to increase the quantum of their applications, the author of this document himself heading the list.

"Who has laid the affair before the public? The *credit mobilier*, a privileged institution of the government. Who has received, one might almost say, who has solicited subscriptions from the public? The agents of the *credit foucier de France*, another privileged institution of the government. Who represents the *credit foucier de France* in the provinces? Notaries public and private collectors of finance, functionaries holding office from government. This side of the question alone suffices. It does not result from this that France ought to guarantee the solvency of Mexico; but the public cannot be prevented from viewing, in what has already been done, a governmental support, carrying with it at least a moral responsibility, and thus is assuredly one of the principal determining courses of the subscriptions made to the Mexican loan. This idea gains undeniable strength from the preceding and daily acts of the French government."

This, gentlemen, is what the subscribers to the loan have published, [ah! ah!] and what is indispensably necessary to be made known, now that we are on the eve of having a second loan attempted; for as truly as I recognize the legitimate right of the government to call upon the public credit to negotiate the sixty-six millions it has on hand, to invite all capitalists to join in an operation that it considers sound, so truly do I believe it to be its imperious duty not to make such operation without first clearly enlightening those who are appealed to, without informing them to what consequences they are exposed, and without everything being conducted with a complete and entire royalty. [Very good, from several benches.]

Such being the case, the basis of the loan that you would make, which has been announced to us by Mr. Corta, and which was not certainly the cause of his discourse, although it formed its most direct and precise interest—the basis of this loan is the financial prosperity of Mexico. Now, the light we ask of you is, light upon the financial prosperity of Mexico. The Hon. Mr. Corta endeavored to give it, and he told us—citing the authority of a minister of the Mexican finances, the best statistician I believe that Mexico possesses, Mr. Lerdo y Tejada—he told us that this economist had in 1857 computed the proceeds of the customs revenue to be worth nearly eighty millions; seventy-five millions at first, he said; eighty millions after the opening of the ports of the Pacific, and a hundred millions even, taking into consideration the increasing prosperity of the country. This is the only document I should have been able to verify among those cited by my honorable colleague, and I requested him to show me the statement of this minister of the finances. But my honorable colleague was not in possession of this statement; had he seen it with his own eyes, I should have accepted the figures; but he had never seen it. He had obtained his information only through a third person. It so happens, however, that I have in my hand [the orator unfolded a great roll of paper, which excited the risibility

of the assembly] a synoptical table of the finances of the Mexican republic, drawn up, not in 1856, but in 1850, by the Hon. Minister Lerdo y Tejada. I am ignorant of his having issued a new one in 1856. If it has been so stated to my honorable colleague, I shall believe; only I must remark that if such is the case, the civil war has greatly benefited the country, since from 1850 to 1856, at the time when Mexico was in the greatest state of agitation and suffering, when the republic began to have the upper hand, the revenues of the customs had doubled.

In referring to this only official, or at least authentic document, I have been able to obtain, so as to appreciate the value of the expose of my honorable colleague, I have been disagreeably surprised to find that not only the customs receipts, but those of the entire revenues of the country, do not amount to more than the half of the figures given by the Hon. Mr. Corta, or rather given to him. [Movement.] They are put down at 8,500,000 piastres—that is, forty-two millions instead of eighty millions.

Mr. CORTA. Will you allow me to make an observation?

Mr. ERNEST PICARD. Willingly.

Mr. CORTA. I took the information which I laid before the Chamber from the documents of former ministers of the finances, and also from a paper which I had not seen, as I told my honorable colleague, Mr. Picard, but of which an extract was given me by a Mexican who is at present in Paris. If the Hon. Mr. Picard had conferred with me upon the subject of the discrepancy which he believes to exist, but which does not exist, I could have obtained further information from this Mexican; but, I repeat, no discrepancy exists.

And in the first place, the writings of Mr. Mora Blasio, and of Mr. Antonio Garay, one of the most distinguished ministers of the Mexican finances, who wrote in 1835, 1836, and 1837, demonstrate that the revenues of the customs, not the net revenues, but the gross revenues, might, by adding in the profits robbed from the exchequer by contraband trade, amount to nearly the sum indicated by Mr. Lerdo y Tejada; for these former ministers counted the possible revenues of the customs at seventy-five millions, and Mr. Lerdo y Tejada, who wrote later, carries them to eighty millions—that is to say, to five millions more.

Now, what does the Hon. Mr. Picard oppose? To a paper of Mr. Lerdo y Tejada, written in 1856 or 1857, he opposes an anterior synoptical table, from which it results that the net produce of the revenues was, according to Mr. Lerdo y Tejada, inferior to that I spoke of. But the synoptical table shows the net produce only, while the work of Mr. Lerdo y Tejada comprises the net profits, the accumulated gross profits, and the profits which are stolen from the exchequer. There can be no possible comparison, neither by analogy nor discrepancy.

Mr. ERNEST PICARD. Was I not right in saying, at the commencement, that we must beware of the fascinations of Mexico? And are not those finances rather fantastical in which we find the number wanted without discarding the unknown quantity, and in which we reckon not only what enters into the treasury, but also what does not enter, but which probably ought to enter? [Laughter.] We are not accustomed to discuss affairs with such a large margin; and my honorable colleague must allow me to observe to him, that if that were the only guarantee furnished to the subscribers to the loan, and if they knew it were so, and did not see behind the loan the government in its power, its majesty, and moral responsibility, there would be no subscribers. I say it without further insisting upon this ungrateful portion of my task. I shall have fulfilled it if I have succeeded in demonstrating to you that it is impossible, even with the greatest good will in the world, and without being in any way systematically opposed to Mexico and its prosperity—[interruption]—impossible, I say, to look upon our financial relations with Mexico as an excellent affair. I think, on the contrary, that it is time to remember what the Hon. Mr. Berryer said last year about this time, when, making the account of Mexican finances, its debt

and its resources, he showed that the minister of finance of the Mexican empire, whose report had been published there in the Morning Post, had said that not only was a loan, giving one hundred and twenty millions to the Mexican government, necessary, but that to save it it would require a loan of seven hundred and fifty millions; otherwise it could not meet its expenses. The Hon. Mr. Berryer, our illustrious and eminent colleague, was very nearly in the right.

At present, gentlemen, who can dispute it? Surely not the minister, who, questioned by me for the third time, (and in truth I fear to question him again,) is about to announce to you for the third time that a loan is imminent and perhaps desirable. I say, then, gentlemen, that in the light of wisdom in the good administration of our finances, as well as of wisdom in our foreign policy, the affair of Mexico presents nothing satisfactory to us; and I am sure in thus expressing myself that I agree with the secret sentiment of the Chamber, and I may say before it what it thinks in all sincerity. But, gentlemen, in face of this fact, what is our duty? What have we to do? In order to understand it well, and know just how far we may venture to go, it is indispensable in this question also to take a retrospective view.

It was in 1862 that for the first time we were informed in this place of the Mexican expedition, and in 1862 we disputed the utility of this expedition, and declared to the government that it would not easily obtain those indemnities it went so far at such a cost to seek. We told it that behind this enterprise was concealed another, inspired by a candidate, and that candidate was the Archduke Maximilian. What answer was made to this? What were the words of him who was then the eloquent organ of the government? He said to us, When such suppositions are affirmed, proofs must be brought forward to support them, and you have none. The aim of the agreement between the three powers was to require from the Mexican republic a more effectual protection to their respective subjects, and the fulfilment of the obligations contracted by this republic. And the honorable orator added: "The three contracting parties are pledged to reserve no acquisition of territory and no private advantage, and to exercise in the internal affairs of Mexico no influence of a nature to violate the rights of the Mexican nation to choose and freely constitute the form of its own government."

Thus it was acknowledged that if the archduke were behind the expedition, you would not have been asked to vote for the expedition.

The following year we resumed the subject. All the world knew the Archduke Maximilian to be the candidate. The minister of state himself acknowledged that since October 31, 1861, (and this took place in the session of March 13, 1862,) that since that period an engagement had been entered into with him. "It was then necessary to look about one," said he. "A name has been pronounced—the name of a prince of that great house of Hapsburg, which shortly before we encountered on the battle-fields of Magenta and Solferino. The Emperor has thought himself magnanimous in not opposing this candidate, and if it obtained universal suffrage it must be respected." That is what was done October 31, 1861; that is, several months before the time that the contrary was told us in this building. The proof, gentlemen, is very clear and cannot be denied.

The following year we resumed the subject. You know, gentlemen, what obstacles the expedition had to surmount. We were again told, "We desire that the Archduke Maximilian should become emperor of Mexico, but no engagement to this effect has been made with him." And when, with the authority of his word, the honorable M. Thiers said in this house that the engagement was inherent to the situation, everybody cried out. The honorable M. Granier de Cassagnac exclaimed, interrupting M. Thiers, that there was no engagement, and that the archduke set out because he wished to do so. The honorable minister of state declared also that there was no engagement. And, gentlemen, the

affair is too serious for me not to place before the Chamber the words which were uttered on this occasion.

In the session of January 27 Mr. Berryer said: "Is it true that the government has entered into no engagement binding the country either in a financial point of view or as concerning our soldiers? Is the country committed, or is it not?

"Mr. Rouher. If you had read Mr. Larrabure's report you would have been enlightened on this subject.

"Mr. Segris. I request permission to say a word. The reply of the government organs which I find in the report, and which I bespeak for my share of the debate, is as follows: The Emperor's government declares that at present it has not entered into any engagement whatsoever, either to leave a corps of French troops in Mexico or to guarantee any loan, and that there is no reason to suppose it necessary to augment the French forces at present in Mexico."

Every one, with the exception perhaps of the opposition, whose mistrust in all that relates to this question appears to be incurable, [smiles from several benches,] placed confidence in the words of the honorable minister of state. One member only, one of the most eminent, who has often occupied the seat of minister, and who knows all the weight attached to the words of a minister, [murmurs,] interrupted the reading. He can readily comprehend the reserve under which the honorable Mr. Rouher will seek a refuge, from which I have no intention to drive him. The honorable Mr. Thiers interrupted Mr. Segris by saying "at present." Upon this interruption of Mr. Thiers the Moniteur stated that a movement was produced in the assembly. This movement took place on the 27th of January, and on the 10th of April a convention, regulating the loan, the sojourn of our troops, and the payment of the Mexican coupons. was signed and engagements entered into, and upon too large a scale to have allowed them, on the 17th of January, to be avowed to the Chamber in the same terms in which the convention at Miramar was concluded on the 10th of April.

And now, habituated by our situation to moderate our desires, [laughter and murmurs,] we solicit you not to permit the convention of the 10th of April to be again overstepped, or that once more, before this Chamber, at the same date, you listening and the minister speaking, a session shall be held in which engagements shall be entered into upon the same terms, nothing more nor less, and then be carried out as in preceding years.

The Chamber is aware that the honorable minister of state has been present at only a portion of these debates, but the entire Chamber has assisted at almost all. It has watched the rise and progress of the Mexican question, and I assert that the hour has arrived when it becomes its duty, as it is its right, to bring this question to a close.

I assert, gentlemen, that when a Chamber has been induced by the government to accept in perfect confidence that which has been proposed to it, and allowed itself to be led whither it would not have gone of its own accord, I assert that this Chamber has a right and a duty. It has been trustful; it must now resist. It cannot and should not in face of the minister, in face of the government, make use of parliamentary courtesy, [dissent from several benches; assent from others,] because state affairs are not regulated by courtesy and excess of confidence. I leave all other questions to your discretion, gentlemen, but in the Mexican question we are released from this duty toward the government. You are searching, for the interest of the country, for that policy which this time you ought not to recommend timidly to your country; but—permit me the word—you should enjoin upon the government by a vote and a manifestation. We do not ask you to join our party; but can it be possible that, in a question where you think as we do, where the interest of France appears to you as it does to us, where you see your duty as clearly as we do, that a man should not rise up from your midst, were it but—were it but—I withdraw the

word, and I wish it might be the honorable M. Segris, whom I just now quoted, who has withheld, as he says, the declaration of the government, and who certainly must have withheld it for more than a year. The honorable Mr. Segris said, "This is the declaration which has been made;" I withhold it; and the honorable Mr. Rouher added, "I withdraw nothing from it." The declaration is there; the engagement exists; and, since it does, it must be kept. What is it? It is the engagement entered into by the convention of 10th April, 1864, by the convention of Miramar; or rather it is the engagement entered into in these precincts, for the convention of 10th April, 1864, like all conventions that pass between sovereigns, and are not submitted to the assemblies, is not altogether in conformity with the policy that has been explained here, and sustained by the organs of the government. It has a preface of which I would willingly hear the honorable minister give a different interpretation from mine; it is thus conceived:

"The governments of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, and of his majesty the emperor of Mexico, actuated by an equal desire to secure the re-establishment of order in Mexico, and to consolidate the new empire, have resolved to regulate by a convention" ——

If nothing more is meant than a *desire*, I have no more to say; but if this "desire" contains the tacit and inevitable engagement which it is proposed to you to take in following this policy, the Chamber, which was not a party to this convention, and does not incline to this policy, must disengage itself from it. And in what manner must it do so? It must do that which was provided for by article 1 of the convention, thus expressed:

"The French troops that are now in Mexico shall be reduced as soon as possible to 25,000 men, including the foreign legion. This corps will remain temporarily in Mexico, to protect the interests that led to this intervention, in conformity with the conditions regulated by the following articles."

Here I pause to remark to the government: You declared in the report of the honorable Mr. Larrabure, to which you called attention in the session I spoke of just now, and to which you referred our colleagues in these words, "Read it and you will be enlightened." You declared the year 1864 should not pass away before the French troops should have returned to France. [Sign of denial by the minister of state.]

M. Jules Favre. Yes, yes; it is in the report. [Noise.]

M. Ernest Picard. This is what I read in the report of the honorable Mr. Larrabure: "In the present provisions the government hopes that the end of 1864"——. [Interruption.]

Many Voices. "Hopes!"

M. Ernest Picard, continuing: "that the end of the year 1864 will mark the termination of the expedition. Moreover, arrangements have been proposed whereby, from the 1st of January, 1864, Mexico shall contribute more efficiently towards the pay and the maintenance of our troops."

Several Members. Well, well!

M. Ernest Picard. The report says further: "In the first place, and in a general manner, the government has no intentions of undertaking new expeditions." You know that now an expedition to Sonora is again spoken of. "As for the expedition of San Luis de Potosi, in particular, it was judged necessary in order to occupy the most important parts of Mexico. The country between San Luis and Mexico contains important centres of population. The occupation of these parts became necessary, precisely to hasten the accomplishment of the work undertaken, viz: the redress of our grievances, and the possibility for Mexico to choose freely a new government. Having the country under our control as far as San Luis de Potosi, we can more rapidly and successfully see this result realized. The army will stop there." Has it stopped? [Interruption.]

M. AUGUSTE CHEVALIER. It went forward in the face of peril.

M. ERNEST PICARD. That is true. Its achievements were splendid, but our policy was not. [Approbation in the vicinity of the orator.] I proceed: "Universal suffrage, operating naturally according to the customs or institutions of the country, will be invited to choose the form of government it prefers; whatever may be its decision, France will respect it." Is that what we are doing? I ask you this sincerely, loyally, in the capacity of a deputy anxious to fulfil my mission, and to obtain, if possible, the concurrence of my fellow-citizens and colleagues in a question which touches so nearly the most important interests of our country, both present and future. I ask you, have you done this? You have not; the Chamber knows it. Your engagements were made while you were in the Chamber, and as soon as you quitted it you forgot them. [Disturbance.] You have returned to it, and I recall them to your remembrance. I remind you of them at the time, when, if we understand the language of politics, we ought to be able to see, by the explanations given us in these precints, that not only has the French army not stopped, not only has it not returned in 1864, but also that it will not return in 1865.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. Very good.

M. ERNEST PICARD. Is it not true? Does any one contradict me? This time the minister takes no further engagement, and I thank him for it; but by taking no further engagement he gives warning to the Chamber; and if the Chamber is warned, what is its duty? Who are we here—for what? Can it be that the discussion of the address is nothing but a political pastime? [Disturbance and murmurs.]

M. BELMONTEL. The pastime is rather a long one!

PRESIDENT SCHNEIDER. I must beg of M. Picard * * *

M. GLAIS BISOIN. Oh! the word is parliamentary; we all accept it?

PRESIDENT SCHNEIDER. If it be parliamentary, it is not well chosen in the midst of such full and serious debates. [Very good; very good!]

M. ERNEST PICARD. I wish that to-day's session might prove to me that I have expressed myself badly. I wish that, animated by the same sentiments and intentions as myself, my colleagues might form the same idea that I do of our mission, and our mutual duties. [Fresh interruption.]

SEVERAL VOICES. We know them.

M. GRANIER DE CASSAGNAC. Do you claim to be a model deputy? [Noise.]

M. ERNEST PICARD. Do not be afraid, gentlemen; I shall form no theory infringing the constitution; I shall not ask you to interfere in the administration; but I ask you whether or not you have the right and the duty to vote efficiently in this assembly upon a given question about which your opinions is settled?

M. GRANIER DE CASSAGNAC. Certainly we have.

M. ERNEST PICARD. Does the address sufficiently express this sentiment? I have read attentively the paragraph now under discussion. It certainly differs from last year's compilation; and certainly, in the ingenuous phrase wherein the commission of the address expresses pleasure in witnessing the return of our troops, the intimation is not sufficiently precise for the government not to be able to misunderstand it. Having been three times held at bay upon this question, I conjure you, not in your own interest, not in that of the government, nor for any secondary political reasons, but in the great interests of the country, to declare your sentiments, if you have that courage that will * * [Exclamations and murmurs.]

NUMEROUS VOICES. Order! order!

M. GRANIER DE CASSAGNAC. Such expressions cannot be tolerated.

PRESIDENT SCHNEIDER. I call on the honorable Mr. Picard to explain himself.

M. TAILLEFER to M. PICARD. Take back that word.

PRESIDENT SCHNEIDER. I call upon him to take back a word which may wound the feelings of the Chamber. It is not courage, but conviction, which acts in this place; and in France, where there is conviction, courage is never wanting to express it. [Very good; very good!]

M. TAILLEFER. I require that the honorable orator take back his expression. [Yes, yes; order!]

PRESIDENT SCHNEIDER (addressing Mr. Picard.) I beg of you to withdraw your expression.

M. ERNEST PICARD. I appeal to the whole Chamber to admit, with me, that the resolution to be taken in this circumstance is one that requires a certain amount of courage. [Denials and noise.]

PRESIDENT SCHNEIDER. I again invite Mr. Picard to withdraw an expression which is somewhat offensive to the Chamber.

M. ERNEST PICARD. I withdraw it unhesitatingly. I am here to discuss a grave question, and not to offend the Chamber.

PRESIDENT SCHNEIDER. You are fully aware, Mr. Picard, that you must respect the convictions of your colleagues if you wish them to respect yours. [Very good!]

M. ERNEST PICARD. I respect them fully, and have just given proof of it.

I continue: You see, gentlemen, in what manner I take the liberty of placing this question before you. It is clear and precise, and closely connected with the gravest interests of the country, and your most imperious duties. I say, that if you decide to vote the second part of our amendment, which runs thus: "In conformity with the declarations of the government we await the recall of our troops," you will explicitly express your wishes. If, however, you will not associate yourselves with an amendment which comes from our side, you can make one for yourselves which will express the same idea. By so doing you will, in my estimation, and as I said at the opening of this debate, render the most signal service to the government. You will disembarrass its policy. When it has been decided and knowledged in the French Chamber that our troops can return with honor, without detriment to any one, the government then will no longer be restrained by these vain and egotistical reasons which were just now brought forward, but will be able to fulfil its secret desires, and conscientiously satisfy its political conduct. [Very good! from several benches.]

M. ERNEST PICARD. Can you do it? You can do it this year; you could have done it better last year; and better still three years ago. The pretexts, or, if you like it better, the reasons, that prevented you last year, no longer exist. It was asked, with whom shall we treat? And the minister of state replied, "France does not treat with her enemies; she will not treat with Juarez, nor with the bands behind Juarez."

One word upon these "bands;" and, in order that I may not be told that we associate our idea, which we do not, with men who are rightly called bandits—as they have been called by the government in former discussions—I inquire of the emperor Maximilian and his ministers, whose conduct in this respect I honor, for, in this sense, they have inaugurated a liberal policy—I inquire of the emperor Maximilian and his ministers, in what manner those men should be treated who still resist the new government of Mexico? The minister of the interior, Mr. Gonzalez de la Vega, expresses himself thus in a circular referring to those persons who lay down their arms: "His Majesty entertains the warmest desires, and makes constant exertions, to obliterate every trace of the dissensions that have for so long a period desolated the country, and to renew the ties of brotherhood which ought to unite the great Mexican family. He cannot, therefore, see with indifference that when certain persons are spoken of, odious qualifications are used which are in disunion with his policy and his conciliatory sentiments. With this object in view his majesty in the decree of the 6th instant, wherein he calls around him all those who have opposed or still oppose his government,

without being otherwise criminal, has avoided the use of the expression *indulto*" (pardon.) Such, gentlemen, is the way they think in Mexico; I am convinced our soldiers think the same, not fearing to honor those with whom they have fought. I say, therefore, that the minister appears to me to exaggerate when he solemnly declares to this tribunal that it was impossible to treat with Juarez; but this is no longer the question. And when he said it was impossible to treat with Almonte, who was merely a provisionary chief, although installed by the French government itself, I reply, that although this may have been a reason, a specious one, this reason no longer exists. The Archduke Maximilian is now on the throne; he is seated there in virtue of a universal suffrage, very restricted certainly, and especially by the vote of the assembly of nobles. And here—I trust the government will permit me to speak it out—arises an invincible dilemma. If votes must be sought for in the recesses of the mountains, by the edge of the sword, these votes are no longer free, and we would prefer not to have the guarantee of universal suffrage if it must be so obtained.

The emperor Maximilian is, I assert, sufficiently firm upon his throne to permit the recall of the French from Mexico. Last year you said it could not be, as he was not then installed. Now he is; ovations you tell us accompany him on every side. The pacification is effected; you yourselves declare this fact to us; you withhold from us documents that give a contrary statement, and I thank you for withholding them, if it obliges you to declare from the tribune where you stand, "The emperor Maximilian is on the throne of Mexico; and, as I informed you last year, we have entered into no engagement to sustain him there; there is no necessity of our sending out our French soldiers under a foreign flag, and we may now stipulate with Maximilian for the return of our troops." In such a case, I withdraw my amendment, and thank the government for having performed an act of sound policy and true patriotism.

And now, gentlemen, I must beg you to note that whatever seeming irritation there may have been in our debate, I have carefully abstained, throughout the perplexing circumstances which surround our heavy task of duty, from saying a word about these threatening contingencies which hang over the question, and of which you are perfectly cognizant. [Murmurs.] On the other hand, you must judge whether it comports with it, comports with a true and judicious policy to keep thirty or forty thousand French troops and a portion of our fleet engaged for years in the Mexican expedition, three thousand leagues distant from the war we are actually carrying on in Algeria. Is it a sound policy? Is it a patriotic policy? Is it a policy which a French Chamber can accept? No! a thousand times no!

They did not dare to present it to you in this light when they drew you into this expedition; and can I forget that you constitute to-day the sovereign expression of the will of the nation? that when you speak, if you do speak, all, and the government before all, are bound to obey? I conjure you, in the name of French interests, to speak, and to protect the government itself, and, above all, France. [Expressions of warm approbation around the speaker.]

PRESIDENT SCHNEIDER. The minister of state has the floor.

His excellency Mr. ROUHER, secretary of state. Gentlemen: Government does not ask you for a vote of trust; still less does it demand of you a vote of complaisance which you would not grant. It asks for your sincere, enlightened, and free judgment on the affairs of Mexico, [very good;] and, in order to aid you in forming an opinion, it is its duty to inform you of the facts, and of its convictions concerning them.

And first, I meet in the Hon. Mr. Picard's discussion a reproach which I could in nowise expect. The government, says he, makes silence around the Mexican question; it produces no documents, no papers in the debate; it shows itself unwilling to give any information, and thus compels the opposition to discuss the question at a great disadvantage.

What! gentlemen, has the house, has the country, remained ignorant of the events concerning Mexico? Has not all possible information been given to public opinion, and to the members of this assembly? Every fortnight, at the arrival of every mail, either in England or in France, the Moniteur publishes with most scrupulous fidelity every military, political, or administrative information relating to the Mexican question. You can examine all these documents; I know of no omission, nor of any interruption in them, for, so far as I am concerned, I declare to the house, when I wished to inform myself concerning the events which have taken place in Mexico since last year I merely and simply read the Moniteur. Thus the reproach addressed to government by the Hon. M. Picard is utterly unfounded.

Let us now examine rapidly what Mexico was before, and what it has become since, the emperor Maximilian ascended the throne; what the present position is, and what duties that position entails upon us. Let us consider at once, as did the Hon. M. Picard, the paragraph in your address, and the amendment to it proposed by the opposition.

Mexico, prior to the French intervention, (and all agree on this point,) was a prey to the most deplorable anarchy. For fifty years it had undergone all the sufferings entailed by prolonged revolution; governments succeeded each other with the most marked want of stability; civil war reigned in central Mexico, and in a large portion of the south. The northern provinces had thrown off the yoke of all authority, the governors having long since declared their independence.

There existed in that unfortunate country a sad contrast between the riches with which God has endowed it, and the disordered rule of the leading classes which govern it. As was said yesterday by the honorable M. Corta, labor, the love of order, and patriotism, had no longer a home there; but among the long-oppressed Indian population, agriculture, industry, and commerce had no security of existence or of duration; labor no future to look to. And this disorder did not injure the natives only; it reached all foreigners who had come to bring their activity and their industry into the various parts of Mexico.

Such is the origin of the resolution taken by three great nations to avenge the injuries received by their countrymen, and the outrages to which they had been subjected. Such was the condition of Mexico.

What has it become since the French intervention? What has it become since the emperor Maximilian ascended the throne to which he was called by a regular, univeral suffrage, whose votes were presented to him when he accepted the crown? What has it become since?

But, first, let us ask, at this moment, when that question is propounded to us, how long a time has there elapsed to justify a demand for the absolute pacification of Mexico?

The emperor Maximilian has hardly been ten months in possession of the Mexican empire and of the city of Mexico, and we are already asked to give a strict account of all the events which may have taken place!

Well, let us look at the facts.

French intervention has procured a durable peace to the central part of Mexico; but a large portion of the country had not yet been embraced by the operations of our troops. All the northern provinces and part of the south along the Pacific coast were yet in the hands of the adversaries of the empire, and that for the reason given a moment ago by the honorable Mr. Corta. The federal system had divided the country into almost entirely independent provinces; each governor has his own administration, his own justice his own army, his own finances; paid and equipped his troops and had an arsenal of his own at the seat of his government.

Thus there was no centralization of the administrative powers, but a complete dispersion of all authority, and even of financial resources, for the governors

levied taxes, but very seldom did any portion of them reach the hands of the central administration at Mexico.

The emperor of Mexico had, therefore, a two-fold mission to fulfil. He had first to reorganize the administration and government in the parts of the country which were pacified; he had the difficult task of steering clear of the passions of the contending parties, avoiding the exaggerations of the clerical party as well as the fiery demands of the party called liberal in Mexico.

He had, besides, to organize in the midst of these factions a new party, at once conservative and liberal, which should avoid all the above-mentioned obstacles.

It is, undeniably, a difficult task that of reorganizing all this complicated administrative and governmental machinery which, in the Old World, we can establish only with a great deal of time and patience, and which we have perfected, but after paying often very dear for our mistakes.

He had at the same time to establish his authority in the more remote parts of his empire, to overcome the influence of Juarez, and to counteract the efforts of his party and of the governors, who considered themselves independent.

What has he accomplished, gentlemen? He inaugurated his administration by a general amnesty, thus urging the country to quiet, to peacefulness, and seeking to lead the people to ideas of order and those of the government. Then he convened, as you were informed by Mr. Corta, all the most enlightened and eminent men of the city of Mexico and of the provinces, without distinction of parties, and without inquiring into the part played by them in former political events, and he intrusted them with the task of inquiring into the questions of finances and that of the organization of the army.

Finally, in order not to act too precipitately in anything in this country, rendered sore by revolutions, he went himself into the provinces, visited the principal cities, inquired into the tendencies, the ideas, customs, hopes of the people, thus gathering all the information which could be useful to him in the difficult art of governing a nation.

After his return to Mexico, making up his mind at once, he resolved all the questions which had to be disposed of, and determined the administrative course of the prefects of the empire by instruction worthy of the homage they received yesterday.

He has organized a council of state; he has restored justice—that justice so endangered in Mexico has been by him established on a firm basis, which guards at once its learning and its liberties. And this was doing no little, gentlemen. The administration of justice in a country is more than a governmental question. It is a social question; for it is in the administration of justice we find the most solid basis of the future and grandeur of a nation. [Marks of approbation.]

When this was done he inquired into all the questions which related to the increase of the public wealth. He sought to give the strongest possible impulse to enterprises facilitating the means of communication between the various parts of the country.

In these efforts did he meet with general confidence? Has he enlisted the sympathies of Europe? Have no manifestations occurred around him of a nature to prove that his empire is already firmly established, and offers most satisfactory guarantees to public opinion?

I consider the movement which has taken place during these nine months of the events of which I have to give an account to the Chamber. This movement has been as follows:

The customs of Vera Cruz and of the other ports of the empire have considerably increased. The English, who showed themselves very suspicious at the time of the loan, have gained confidence, and the great railway, which is to connect Vera Cruz and Mexico, has been conceded to an English company, who

will fulfil the contract entered into by the firm of Escenda and the government of Juarez.

This is not all. Various companies are being organized in Mexico; the Guanajuato and Guadalajara railways, which are to connect the principal cities of the empire, have been conceded; the mines of Durango, including both the old lodes and newly-discovered ones, are being worked by mining companies; science and speculation have joined hands to aid in developing the resources of the country. Besides the gold and silver mines it possesses, there have been discovered iron and coal mines and petroleum lands, all of which are about to be worked.

Something more was needed. Communications had to be established between the ports of the two seas which surround Mexico. A company was organized for this purpose, and now a line of steamers ply between the ports of both seas, insuring rapid communications along the coasts of the Mexican empire.

On the other hand, gentlemen, the emigration movement spoken of by the honorable M. Corta has received a commencement of execution. I read in the Moniteur that large tracts of land in the province of Zacatecas are being offered to European immigrants.

Finally, as a last evidence of the progress making in Mexico, and a most promising symptom for the Mexican empire, is the formation with French capital of a national Mexican bank, which will soon organize the commercial credit of Mexico.

Such results obtained in a new country, in a country which is but now attaining social existence, developing for the first time its resources and powers, would be essentially worthy of attention and admiration.

How, then, shall you consider them when they are realized in a country so long a prey to civil war, still restive and disturbed, and of which a large portion was still a short time ago in the hands of the enemy we were fighting?

One word about military expeditions.

The honorable M. Picard has said that these military expeditions were undertaken under circumstances rendering them at once unreasonable and useless.

But which were the provinces where Juarez had sought shelter? Where was he still ruling? What resources was he availing himself of to organize the "corps d'armée" which we had to conquer? He had taken refuge in the State of Durango, and thence ruled over the States of Nuevo Leon, Coahuila, Tamaulipas, Chihuahua, and Sonora.

He drew his supplies from the port of Matamoras, situated on the American frontier, and from various ports on the Pacific. Was it reasonable, was it possible for the emperor Maximilian to let this opposition increase, fed by the Mexican customs, which he had a right to rely upon collecting?

Under these circumstances was the expedition undertaken, and now reproaches only are addressed to the brave troops who courageously marched from victory to victory through the immense territory they had to cross. [Very good, very good.]

A Voice. We did not blame our soldiers.

The Secretary of State. You did not blame the soldiers, but you blamed the eminent officer who, in order to insure the completion of our undertaking, and to hasten the return of our troops, undertook these expeditions; led by political considerations, you blamed the eminent chief who planned these far-off expeditions, and you sought to make government contradict itself.

A Voice on the left. It is the system.

The Secretary of State. Yes, our troops, commanded by Marshal Bazaine, took possession successively of Durango and Monterey, then strengthened by Mexican troops, and, assisted by our navy, they seized Matamoras, and thus dried up the source of Juarez's supplies, which he used against us. They did not stop there. Marshal Bazaine sent General Douay into the State of Jalisco

and gave him the charge of subjecting these agitated provinces; then advancing toward the regions along the Pacific coast, we brought them all under the rule of the emperor Maximilian.

We have been to Acapulco, to Tepic, to San Blas, to Mazatlan; perhaps we are at present on our way towards Guaymas, the most important port of Sonora. Everywhere did we vindicate the honor of the French flag, or rather of the Mexican flag, whose defenders we were. [Very good, very good.] A worthy crowning of these great undertakings was the unconditional surrender of Oajaca, of its governor, Porfirio Diaz, and of the four thousand men of his command.

Now, gentlemen, that our conduct has been explained, and a condensed account of our operations presented, what criticisms are made against us?

If I understand the Hon. M. Picard correctly he brings two principal accusations against us: an overweening confidence in the resources of Mexico, and a breach of promise.

We would allow the Mexican government to negotiate a loan in our market when Mexican finances, according to his opinion, do not present sufficient guarantee.

We had promised to withdraw the troops at the end of the year 1864, and we violated that promise.

As regards Mexican finances, gentlemen, did not the information imparted by the Hon. Mr. Corta fully satisfy the house concerning the resources of that country? [Yes, yes.]

The Hon. M. Picard got hold of I know not what kind of statistical tables, which he showed the house from a distance, and which he finds, says he, contradict the statements made by the Hon. M. Corta, statements taken from a former minister of finances in Mexico.

Did the Hon. M. Corta, in order to convince you, merely give you the indications of some writer or other? Did he not analyze the position of the Mexican empire under Spanish rule, afterwards as a republic, and again after the United States had taken possession of it? Did he not follow up the question in the most thorough manner, proving that as far back as 1804 the resources of Mexico represented one hundred millions of taxes, of which fifty millions—the figures are due to M. de Humboldt—were handed over to the Spanish authorities, who used part of it for the colony and sent the other part to the mother country? This is also confirmed from other sources.

In 1846 the Americans had possession of all the Mexican ports; they could collect the Mexican customs for their own use. How much do the documents of that time value them? At eighty to ninety millions; the very figures mentioned by the Hon. M. Corta.

There was less contraband and fewer frauds going on then. The Americans managed the customs in a way which gave the best guarantee in that respect.

These figures were but the rough product, I know. But Mexican budgets are made as we make them in France. In the budget of expenses figure the expenses for the administration and collecting of customs, while the rough amount derived from them figures in the budget of receipts.

It was, therefore, natural for the Hon. M. Corta, when counting up the resources, to put down the receipts at eighty to ninety millions, expressing the hope of seeing these figures increase, indicating, as he did, that the entire budget, including the interests on the state debt, did not exceed one hundred and fifty millions. He then counted up all the resources which revenue, taxes and the tobacco monopoly would give Mexico, and said there was a wide margin of resources and securities which Mexico could rely upon and give in pledge to Europe.

Gentlemen, permit me to offer you a consideration which will make the house trust in the vitality and powers of that country.

Do you think that, during the civil war, enormous contributions were not levied by the contending governments?

Some days ago I questioned an honorable general recently returned from Mexico, and asked him what he thought of the resources of that large empire. "That country," answered he, "has paid three hundred millions taxes during fifty years; during fifty years the irregular governments existing there levied on Indian labor, on Indian produce, and on the goods passing through the custom-house, two hundred to three hundred millions. How, then, can any one pretend to fear lest when order, prosperity, and liberty are restored, and develop all these magnificent natural resources, it should not be possible to levy one hundred and fifty millions taxes?"

Have no fears, gentlemen; the impulse given by the emperor Maximilian will insure the lasting prosperity of the finances of the Mexican empire, and give undoubted securities to those who shall lend it their money. [Approbation.] There can besides, in this case, be no direct or moral responsibility attaching to the French government. France does not interfere, and gives no direct or indirect guarantee on the question of the Mexican loan. We inform public opinion of facts which we believe to be true. We publish them in full, and in all sincerity, and it is for the public to judge. [Approbation.]

M. Jules le Favre. What means of verification has the public?

The Secretary of State. The Hon. Mr. Jules Favre asks me what means of verification the public possesses? I will tell him. These means are the capitalists who will give their money, and who know their own interest full as well as you do——

Several Voices. They know it much better.

The Secretary of State——who do not risk their money in operations which they consider unsafe; who examine, question, inquire, hunt up information, and have all the legitimate caution of capital, which dislikes ventures and risks. [Adhesion.]

M. Ernest Picard. The subscribers to the first loan have already lost twenty per cent., and now you talk of a second. [Interruption.]

The President. I beg the Hon. M. Picard not to interrupt the speaker. He has expressed in the house many ideas which certainly conflicted with the views of large numbers of his colleagues.

Several Voices. Yes, yes.

The President. It was then his right; now it is his duty to listen to contradiction. [Approbation.]

The Secretary of State. You are concerned about the future loan; and, certainly, if the money-holders who to-morrow shall read your speech believe in your assertions, they will be in no hurry to advance their money; and if they sought your legal advice, you would counsel them against it. [Laughter.]

Well, I want to quiet your fears—to restore your confidence; do not worry; the loan is subscribed. At this moment, while I am speaking, it is signed by the most important firms in France and England. [Applause.] I received the news as I was entering the house. This mistrust, these criticisms against the most vital interests of the country, coming from unknown sources, and seeking to sow disquietude and fears, will not be listened to, and it is what they deserve. [Renewed applause.]

We must then lay by all the allegations laboriously collected and brought forward by M. Picard. The question has been analyzed and studied by those who have the most direct interest in it; and they have decided to put their money into the undertaking.

Gentlemen, there is a reproach which has touched me more deeply, both as a man and as a representative of the government. The house has been told that statements made to the corps legislatif, that engagements entered into, had been disregarded and broken. It has been claimed that we promised last year to end

the expedition in 1864, and to bring back all our troops to France. The convention of Miramar has been distorted to find in it I know not what contradictions between its stipulations and those made in January. Is this the first time this convention is brought to the notice of the house? Has it not been discussed here? After the 10th of April, when it was concluded, was it not discussed, criticised, and examined by all the members of the corps legislatif? Has not every point in it been fully and freely canvassed? Who, then, maintains that that convention contradicted the declarations of government? What did we say in January, 1864? "Government had declared that it would not guarantee the loan which the emperor of Mexico was wishing to contract;" and also that the French troops would not remain an indefinite time in the service of the Mexican government; that the length of their stay in Mexico would be regulated by the requirements of the interests which had called us there and which we were to defend.

In January we simply expressed a wish with regard to the return to France of part of our troops. It is only in May that we went further, and named the number; we said we thought it possible we might recall as many as 10,000 men.

Such is the engagement we had taken, and the budget recently gave it the fullest confirmation. You can examine the figures which were submitted to you, and you will find a very large reduction in the expenses resulting from the reduction of our army in Mexico.

Troops have returned. It is true that up to January, 1865, they numbered but 7,000 to 8,000 men, Marshal Bazaine having retained a regiment of zouaves for his operations against Oajaca. But two days ago we received from Marshal Bazaine information that this regiment was on the point of embarking for France; and, as became an intelligent statesman, and a general desirous of fulfilling the promises made by his government—

"I hope to fulfil the engagement taken by the secretary of state towards the corps legislatif. I shall be the faithful guardian of the promises he has made. My efforts in rapidly carrying our arms to the various parts of the territory, north and south, of the Mexican empire were but the means to hasten the moment of our departure, and of realizing the hopes conceived in, and the promises made to, the corps legislatif." [Approbation.] Any talk about breach of promises, engagements set at naught, is, therefore, the result of a profound error, and this discussion can only leave the regret that there should be persons so ready to doubt the word of a loyal government and the promises it makes to a house which it respects. [Approbation.]

But there is a black spot on our horizon. Some point to it and show it to us. They do not appeal to our fears, but they give us the friendly advice of hastening the return of our troops if we wish to escape the attack of the United States.

Gentlemen, this question cannot be permitted to remain hidden in the semi-obscurity where it was left by the Hon. M. Picard, who in this followed the example of the Hon. Jules Favre. We must fathom the question; we must know what the danger is with which we are threatened. If it is a serious danger we should discuss and encounter it like men; if it is not, we should learn to despise it. [Approbation.]

What events, then, gentlemen, can, in the United States, have reversed the very reassuring declarations I read to you last year from this same tribune? What has happened to justify these fears and anxiety?

I know that around that Mexican question swarm intrigues of which, every day, I discover some threads. I know that from the Mexican provinces bordering on the United States there come every day encouragements to an impracticable plan of a war between the American republic and Mexico. I know that these intrigues are felt over in Europe, and even in France.

A fortnight ago I read in a foreign journal a most frightful description of our position in Mexico; and I found the same article published simultaneously in

fifteen newspapers in various parts of Europe. There is evidently somewhere—I do not know where, and I accuse no one—a centre whence people try to encourage bad feelings, and to propagate erroneous appreciations of our Mexican expedition.

Is this anything new to you? Did not some of you yesterday hand me something claiming to be a proclamation of Juarez, and coming not from his actual residence in Mexico, but from Florence, [laughter,] and distributed on the eve of the discussion to all the members of the corps legislatif? [Renewed laughter.]

I should not have mentioned these incidents had not M. Picard seen fit to take hold of that anonymous document, unsigned, which has not even the merit of being written in French, and which he represents as a protest of the French subscribers to the Mexican loan. What does he know about it? What guarantee can he give concerning that work—its authorship, its origin, its aim? And if he can give us none, why did he give it the honor of publicity before the corps legislatif?

M. E. Picard. I merely took from that book a few questions which it propounded.

The Secretary of State. Gentlemen, what occurred in America resembles very much what is going on in France with regard to the Mexican question. The press propagated the rumor that the French government wanted to make a colony of Sonora and Chihuahua, two provinces almost as large as France, and to work the mines which abound there. Hence a great uproar in America. What! said they, will France, not satisfied with obtaining redress for her grievances, and aiding in establishing in Mexico the imperial government of Archduke Maximilian, attempt now to establish a colony in provinces which border on our own country? This requires looking sharply after.

Next came other accusations. They said in America that we wanted to violate the promised neutrality; we had given to southern ships of war privileges which we refused to northern vessels; our intention was not only to violate our neutrality on small points, but even to interfere by force in the conflict between North and South. All this has been published in America. Yes, we were going to interfere in this terrible war, and on the side of the South.

This created some excitement. In answer to this supposed threat of intervention we were threatened in turn with intervention in Mexico. To justify such a proceeding the Monroe doctrine was quoted. They said that when peace was made with the South it would then be the proper time to attack the Mexican empire. What did all this excitement lead to? To two incidents in the House of Representatives and in the Senate at Washington. The orator who last year presented a resolution relating to Mexico repeated his motion. It was at first rejected, then adopted two days afterwards. This resolution had no direct bearing on the Mexican question. Its object was to contradict the opinion of Mr. Seward and President Lincoln, and to assert the right of the House to exercise a direct influence on diplomatic negotiations, a right denied them in the despatch which was read to you last year.

In the Senate, a member of the committee appointed to report on the budget proposed, considering that the Mexican empire has not been recognized by the United States, to substitute the words, "Legation of the United States in the republic of Mexico," in the place of "Legation of the United States in Mexico."

Such are the two events which have taken place in Mexico. Do you consider them very ominous? Afterwards, when some prospects of peace became apparent, the Monroe doctrine was brought out as a cloak for the attempt, and it was claimed that reconciliation would facilitate the carrying out of the doctrine.

But these hopes were disappointed, and these trifling incidents were forgotten among the preoccupations of war. You are doubtless aware that that war is still

being carried on with painful activity. Yesterday's paper gave you the news of a frightful conflict between the armies of Grant and Lee.

And has the government of the United States been in any way affected by these mendacious rumors? Have we been asked to justify ourselves? And would it not have been easy for us to have done so? What had we done? We had conceded to the South belligerent rights! But how could we have done otherwise? Were we not obliged through this prolonged war to insure in so doing the rights of our maritime commerce and the neutrality of our position?

Have we gone beyond this necessary step in our diplomatic policy? Have we a representative at Richmond? Has the government at Richmond an official representative at Paris? Has not the French government continued to be officially represented at Washington? Our conceding belligerent rights to the South could not therefore constitute a serious cause for complaint. Have we then violated the rules of neutrality? Never did a government take greater pains than ours did to respect the principles and to observe the international regulations on this point.

The causes of our conduct were evident, and allowed of no misunderstanding.

Finally had we to justify ourselves in the eyes of the United States of that strange idea of founding a colony in Sonora.

Gentlemen, this slanderous rumor soon died of its own accord, as it had no serious foundation. Hence, explanations took place—despatches passed between the two governments. What was the result?

On the 15th of December, 1864, the President of the United States declared in his annual message that he intended remaining strictly neutral in the Mexican question; and in March last in his re-election message he invited all nations to peace and concord.

Finally, when his representative at Paris communicated with the minister of foreign affairs, he gave his most loyal and satisfactory explanations. He discarded all these misapprehensions, all these fears of a conflict between the United States and France, as based upon a misunderstanding. He was able to say, you are accused of a desire of interfering in our affairs; this excited the ire of the American press. America is a wise and thoughtful nation; the loyal conduct of France will regulate their conduct in return. Who can entertain any doubt about our course? Have we not from the very beginning of the war declared our firm intention of remaining neutral? [Approbation.]

Thus when I look closely at the facts as they are to be looked at, in order to destroy those rumors which we meet with outside, and with which some attempt to create trouble for the imperial government, I can find in them nothing of any importance.

If I should venture further; if, instead of studying only the facts, I were to inquire into the doctrines and interests which are brought into play, then also would I find no cause to attach any importance to this chance of a conflict. I do not speak of the pretended guarantee which some claim to find in an indefinite extension of the war between the South and North. I look upon such a hope as impious. [Approbation.] The wish of the imperial government is that this war, which is injurious to the interests of all countries, may speedily come to an end. [Strong and general approbation.] It expresses no opinion as to the manner in which it wishes the conflict to terminate. It has no right to, for it respects the independence of the American people. But its most ardent wishes are for concord, and the day when peace shall be made will be for France, the old ally—and permit me to use this expression, the sponsor of the United States—a day of joy and happiness. [Loud approbation.]

Let us, then, not wish to see this terrible war prolonged for the sake of postponing a conflict about Mexico. Have the United States any interest in entering into such a conflict?

We have been told in the early part of this debate that the United States

once took Mexico and held it. They hastened to let it go upon its paying the expenses of the war. They would have us believe that the United States would have an interest in attaching the Mexican provinces. The contrary is the truth. What is the aim of the United States? The restoration of the Union in its former strength, in its original condition of grandeur and prosperity, and free from slavery. Well, then, let us for a moment forget that our flag waves in Mexico, that our forces protect its frontiers; would the United States have an interest in annexing it? No, certainly, for it would be strengthening the South. Do you not see that Mexico, belonging to the United States, would be a standing threat of separation?

The interest of the United States is to cultivate friendly relations with Mexico, by means of trade and commerce. This is their true means of action and of conquest; the way is open to them, and it can but do good to all. [Approbation.]

I do not insist on what has been said of possible inroads by filibusters landing on the Mexican coasts. The Hon. Mr. Corta has disposed of that question; he has reminded you that there are some four to five hundred leagues from Matamoras and the frontiers of the United States to Mexico; that no vessel could be found sufficient to carry any number of troops to any point of the Gulf of Mexico or of the Pacific coast. Such expeditions have always proved fatal to their authors; there is no occasion to fear them, and they could have no result.

This phantom, then, has ceased to exist. There is no reason that we can see for France and the United States ceasing to be at peace; these two powers will remain allies, remembering their old friendship, as well as the interests and sympathies which unite them. [Marked approbation.]

And now, gentlemen, let us examine the amendment. How is it worded?

"We deplore more than ever the blood flowing in Mexico for the benefit of a foreign prince, the disregard of popular sovereignty, and our policy committed to an erroneous course.

"We expect our troops to be recalled in accordance with the declarations of the government."

Such are the views of the opposition.

It would certainly require great courage for the majority to inflict on the government such unjust reproaches as those contained in your amendment. [Approbation.]

What! Must I plead here again a cause so often heard and decided? Must I recall the reasons which led to the Mexican expedition? [No, no; it is useless.] Must I repeat, gentlemen, that you have decided over and over again that the cause which took us to those far-off shores was just? Shall I have to vindicate the extreme prudence of the convention of 1861 between the three powers bent on avenging the insults of their citizens? Is there not in the fact of this union of three great powers uniting in the convention of 1861 a most complete and energetic answer to your painful amendment? Do you believe England and Spain would have signed that convention with France had it contemplated a violation of national sovereignty? There is neither reason nor truth in all this. And I may add, while I am about it, that when you are told that the convention was not first submitted to the corps legislatif, the same might be said of England and Spain, two constitutional countries, two parliamentary governments such as some orators in this house like them.

The convention of 1861 was not submitted first to the parliaments of either England or Spain, for such things are done even in parliamentary governments.

We are told, gentlemen, that we can now make a treaty with the imperial government of Mexico; that if we had some ground for refusing last year to make a treaty with Juarez or Almonte, we are now in the presence of a regular government, and can make one with the emperor of Mexico.

What sort of a treaty do you wish us to make? What treaty could we make

with Mexico? Have we not made the treaty of Miramar? Does it not exactly define our position? Have not our debts been liquidated? Have not the rights of our injured fellow-citizens been defined and guaranteed? What treaty are you talking about?

I really did not expect that the Hon. Mr. Picard would, for the sake of his arguments, revive that unfortunate advice formerly rejected. What! Do you need to remind the house of your proposition to withdraw the troops from Mexico, made immediately after the repulse at Puebla? Have you forgotten the feelings of indignation and the murmurs which that proposition excited? [Approbation.] Have you forgotten how the corps legislatif disposed of that proposition last year of treating with Juarez and Almonte, and how it was ridiculed by the public? [Approbation.] No, there is nothing serious in all you say to us.

The truth is that we have accomplished a great undertaking in Mexico; that, legitimately called upon to avenge our wrongs in that extensive country, we have established in it order, civilization, and liberty; [approbation;] that we have driven out anarchy and civil war; and that in a few years that country shall bless France, and contribute to the development of its commerce and grandeur.

That our troops should remain a few months longer in Mexico; that they should not return at the precise time appointed by you, as well as by Juarez also, what matters it indeed? I am fully aware that, encouraged by reports from France, Juarez writes, "I shall weary them out and make the troops return to France; France desires it." He believes it! Well, let him know that he is mistaking the opposition of France. [Ironical laughter on many benches. Approbation.]

M. Jules Favre. You are insulting the opposition.

M. Ernest Picard. You are getting violent; so you must be wrong. [Exclamations and murmurs.]

The Secretary of State. I was not aware of being violent. [Laughter and approbation.] If to be violent is to be wrong, the opposition are in very great danger of being condemned by their own showing. [Approbation.]

Yes, gentlemen, [the speaker faces the left,] you are more violent than ever we shall be in the name of the government; but you have an excuse, and I will tell you what that excuse is. Do you know why you have sometimes allowed yourselves to be violent? It is because you have neither legitimate grievances nor reasonable hopes. [Lively approbation.] If you had serious grievances public opinion would be on your side, and it is not. [Approbation, murmurs, interruptions.]

M. Jules Favre. We have polled 180,000 votes in Paris. Try and get your candidates elected there.

M. Chevandier de Valdbrome. Paris is not France. [Rumor.]

M. Belmontel. The Emperor has had eight million votes. [Messrs. Picard and Jules Favre speak, but the noise does not permit us to hear what they say.]

M. Eugene Pelletan. If public opinion is with you, give us the freedom of the press. [Various exclamations. General noise.]

The President. You would prevent our doing so by your attacks.

M. E. Picard. We ask the government always to appeal only to public opinion. [Continued noise.]

The President. I invite the house to observe silence and abstain from interruptions. The secretary of state has the floor, and I shall call to order any one who shall again interrupt him.

The Secretary of State. Gentlemen, if I went a little too far in what I said, the opposition has sought to cover my responsibility. [Laughter and approbation.] You see how zealously they interrupt me. [Approbation.]

But we must close this debate. [Yes, yes.] Well, I have said, and I repeat, that the French expedition to Mexico was a great thing; that by that expedi-

tion France has opened to civilization an extensive country. Let her flag remain there a few months longer to overcome the last obstacles to destroy those banditti—the scum of revolutions. What matters a few months more? The end must be gained, the pacification complete. The dignity of France and that of the Emperor both require it. The French army must return to our shores only when its work shall be accomplished, and all the resistance it met with overcome. [Approbation and applause.]

From all sides: The vote! the vote!

THE PRESIDENT. The vote on the amendment will be taken.

M. MAGUIN. Mr. President, there is a demand for a ballot.

THE PRESIDENT. A demand for a ballot has been handed to me signed by Messrs. Jules Favre, Garnier Pages, Maguin, Marié, Dorian, J. Semen, Carnot, Ernest Picard, Glais Bizoin, and Eugene Pelletan. In consequence, the vote on the amendment shall be taken by ballot.

The ballot is taken and the result is as follows:

Number of votes, 241; majority, 121. For the amendment, 16; against, 225.

The corps legislatif does not accept the amendment.

[Enclosure No. 2 to despatch No. 75.]

CORPS LEGISLATIF.

Session of Saturday, April 15, 1865.—*Debate on the amendment of the* 19*th paragraph of the address.*

[Translated from the Moniteur, April 16, 1865.]

PRESIDENT SCHNEIDER. Messrs. Bethmont, Carnot, Dorian, Jules Favre, Garnier Pages, Glais Bizoin, Gueroult, Havin, Heron, Lanjuinais, J. Maguin, Marié, E. Pelletan, E. Picard, Jules Simons, move that at the conclusion of the nineteenth paragraph these additional words be appended:

"We have declared from the commencement [of the war?] our sympathies for the United States of America. Thanks to their heroic efforts, slavery is abolished.

"We shall rejoice to witness the re-establishment of the powerful republic of the United States, the natural ally of France, and we shall hail with joy a triumph which has cost nothing to the cause of liberty."

Mr. Pelletan has the floor to develop this amendment.

Mr. E. PELLETAN. I do not desire either for the Chamber or for myself to prolong the debate, not even to pronounce an oration *in extremis* at the death-bed of our last amendment, for I suppose it will have no happier fate than its predecessors. [Noise: to the vote.] I have but a word to say upon this emendation, the object of which is to make reparation for an omission. In fact, no allusion to North America is made in the address from the Crown, nor in the draught of our address, (projet d'adresse,) nor even in the "Levie Jaune," which contains but a blank page for what concerns America.

Now, the American question is sufficiently important to be treated with less reserve; besides, at the present time, all discussion is useless, for at this very moment while I am speaking the victorious sound of Grant and of Sherman has decided the question. Richmond is taken. The slaveholding rebellion is stricken to the earth, and the American republic is reinstated in its majestic unity. [Noise.] Do not laugh, gentlemen; you may be heard on the other side of the Atlantic. [Renewed noise.] For four years the United States of America have borne the weight of civil war, and never for an instant during the whole of this grievous ordeal have they entertained an idea of suspending the liberties

of the people; never have they opened the door of arbitrary power through which crime so often finds a passage. [Votes! votes!] The executive authority has been allowed to protect itself by legality under the fire of the enemy.

This page of American history is the most illustrious page of the nineteenth century.

President Lincoln has been fully aware that he held the destinies of the New World in his hands, and he has shown himself equal to the emergency; he has abolished slavery, and he has founded a second time the glorious American republic.

NUMEROUS VOICES. The votes! the votes!

Mr. ERNEST PELLETAN. It seems to me that wherever anything great and admirable is done, there ought France to be present. For this reason I desire to send our heartfelt felicitations to the other side of the ocean.

The amendment was rejected—195 votes against it, and 24 for it, out of 219 voting.

No. 221.

Mr. Hunter to Mr. Bigelow.

No. 287.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 19, 1865.

SIR: Referring to your despatch of the 28th of March last, No. 66, relative to the claim of the Arizona Mining Company against France, on account of the seizure of a quantity of powder on the schooner William L. Richardson, I now transmit to you a copy of a communication of the 17th instant, from Messrs. Lewis & Cox, attorneys for that company. As it appears from the evidence that the powder in question was not intended for hostile purposes, and was destined to a place within the jurisdiction of the United States, I must request you to submit the claim to the reconsideration of the imperial government, and to support it by such arguments as the facts of the case may, in your judgment, warrant.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

W. HUNTER, *Acting Secretary.*

JOHN BIGELOW, Esq, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 222.

M. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.

No. 294.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 30, 1865.

SIR: Your despatch of the 13th of October, No. 184, has been received. I thank you for the information you have given me of the manner in which my No. 264 was received by Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys, and I shall wait with interest for an account of the imperial purposes in regard to the matter therein presented.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

JOHN BIGELOW, Esq., *&c., &c., &c.*

FRENCH LEGATION.

Mr. Seward to Mr. de Geofroy.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 9, 1864.

SIR: Referring to your note of the 12th ultimo, in regard to alleged construction in certain ports of the United States of vessels which are to be used as privateers, under letters of marque from President Juarez, of Mexico, I have the honor to enclose, in reply, a copy of a communication of the 26th ultimo from the War Department, from which it will be seen that all needful precautions, within the control of that department, have been taken to prevent the arming or fitting out of vessels to depredate on French commerce.

Accept, sir, the renewed assurances of my high consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Mr. L. DE GEOFROY, *&c., &c., &c.*

Mr. Seward to the Marquis de Montholon.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 16, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to call your attention to two orders or decrees which purport to have been made on the 26th of July last, by Prince Maximilian, who claims to be emperor in Mexico, in which he declares that he has committed the direction of the department of war in that country to General Osmont, chief of the staff of the French expeditionary corps; and that he has committed the direction of the department of the treasury to Mr. Friant, intendant-in-chief of the same corps.

The President thinks it proper that the Emperor of France should be informed that the assumption of administrative functions at this time by the aforenamed officers of the French expeditionary corps under the authority of the Prince Maximilian, is not unlikely to be injurious to good relations between the United States and France, because it is liable to be regarded by the Congress and people of the United States as indicating a course of proceeding on the part of France incongruous with the engagement which has been made for the withdrawal of the French expeditionary corps from that country.

Accept, sir, a renewed assurance of my high consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

MARQUIS DE MONTHOLON, *&c., &c., &c.*

[Translation—with note of August 16, to M. Montholon.]

MAXIMILIAN, EMPEROR OF MEXICO.

In consideration of the merits, combined with the qualifications of General Osmont, chief of the staff of the expeditionary corps, we have thought proper to commit to him the direction of the department of war.

Given at Mexico the 26th July, 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

By the Emperor:
JOSÉ SALAZAR YLARREQUI,
Minister of the Interior.

MAXIMILIAN, EMPEROR OF MEXICO.

In consideration of the merits, combined with the qualifications of Mr. Friant, intendant-in-chief of the expeditionary corps, we have thought proper to commit to him the direction of the department of the treasury.

Given at Mexico the 26th July, 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

By the Emperor:

JOSÉ SALAZAR YLARREQUI,
Minister of the Interior.

AUSTRIA.

No. 223.

Mr. Motley to Mr Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 87] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
Vienna, February 13, 1865.

SIR: * * * * * * *

Until those true peace negotiators, our great generals and admirals and our magnificient armies and fleets, have destroyed the military power of the rebellion, we can hardly dare to hope for an effective counter revolution in the insurgent States.

The European public is, however, already busy with speculations as to the series of events likely to follow the reconstruction of the Union, prominent among which, of course, are tremendous military movements by the combined veteran armies of the loyal and of the lately insurgent sections.

The invasion of Canada and of Mexico without an instant's delay, the sweeping off from the American continent of every vestige of European dominion, from Behring's straits to the Isthmus, the revolutionizing of Ireland—a war with France and England, and I know not what besides—these are the phantoms made to dance about to appal the souls of fearful politicians. It is superfluous to say that such tricks to inveigle the rulers of Europe into rendering assistance at the last moment to the sinking rebellion are too shallow to have a chance of success.

I have the honor to remain your obedient servant,

J. LOTHROP MOTLEY.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 224.

Mr. Motley to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 88] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Vienna, February 26, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches Nos. 123 and 124, of dates of January 30 and February 7, both reaching me by the same post.

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Nothing will suit the American people, when its government is once restored in its integrity, it appears, but an instantaneous onslaught upon Canada on the one side, and upon Mexico on the other.

The American mob, dripping in gore and domineering over a feeble government, (which, however, has become so entirely tyrannical as to have obliterated every vestige of popular liberty,) is about to rush forward to a war with France and England at once, not being half satisfied with the bloodshed of the last four years.

As it is not possible to discover in our own country any respectable source of any such dire forebodings, one is forced to ascribe them to the guilty imaginations of public writers and stump-speakers on this side of the Atlantic. It is thought natural, perhaps, that the Americans, whose national character, public men, current history, whose noblest deeds and highest aspirations, have been, during the last four years, the object of calumny, hatred, and persistent falsification altogether without example in history, in what used to be called "our mother country," stung by the memory of those insults and by the material injury inflicted upon their commerce by English pirates, may be disposed to avenge themselves when they feel themselves strong enough. And because the destruction of an unfortunate republic—our next-door neighbor—by the fleets and armies of the first military power in the world, does not seem exactly consonant to our ideas of right and to our national traditions, it is supposed that we shall consider it our duty to dethrone the new emperor by force of arms, even although the Mexicans should unequivocally manifest their desire to be governed by him. I need not say that I have on proper occasions combated all these hysterical suggestions; and until I am otherwise instructed, and until I see very different indications of the national tendencies from such as are now evident to me, I shall continue to maintain that the dearest object of the people and of the government—which are one in the United States—is to preserve peace with all the world, and have no more bloodshed during this century if it can be avoided.

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I have the honor to remain, sir, your obedient servant,

J. LOTHROP MOTLEY.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 225.

Mr. Motley to Mr Hunter.

No. 108.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Vienna, June 5, 1865.

SIR: * * * * * *

The question of Mexico occupies a very large part of public attention in Europe, and the probable dangers impending over her new order of things, so far as established in that country, is a very fruitful topic of discussion in the journals. I have had no conversation, official or informal, on the subject with the imperial government. My personal views as to this adventure have been long ago expressed whenever fitting occasions offered, and the position of the government of the United States has been fully set forth by my communication of the despatches of the Secretary of State according to his instructions. As I have often had occasion to observe, the imperial government has ever held itself aloof from the whole Mexican enterprise, and disavows responsibility for its results. I suppose that the United States government continues its diplomatic relations with the Mexican republic, and has no present intention of departing from the line of strict neutrality which it has laid down between the contending parties in that country, nor any intention of lending assistance by underhand means to either belligerent. In case any change of attitude is contemplated, I beg to receive as early instructions as possible, and I should be much gratified to be informed, if such a course be not inconvenient, as to any important communica-

tions that may have been had on this subject at Washington or elsewhere. It is obvious that my position requires me to be at least as well instructed in this matter as other diplomatic representatives of the United States may be.

I have the honor to remain, sir, your obedient servant,

J. LOTHROP MOTLEY.

Hon. WILLIAM HUNTER,
Acting Secretary of State, Washington.

PRUSSIA.

No. 226.

Mr. Wright to Mr. Seward.

No. 8.] UNITED STATES LEGATION,
Berlin, November 15, 1865.

SIR: I have had an interesting conversation with Count Bismarck, minister of foreign affairs. My opinion is, he will in a few days modify and change the views as expressed in Baron Thile's communication, forwarded to you by my last despatch, in reference to the two sentenced criminals designed to be sent to the United States by the authorities at Erfurt.

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The Paris correspondent of the Czas, a Polish paper published at Cracow, who derives his Mexican intelligence from the Polish generals and colonels in the service of the emperor Maximilian, and whose trustworthiness has been repeatedly tested by gentlemen in whom I place implicit confidence, states that the French government have opened negotiations with the imperial government of Mexico on the subject of the withdrawal of the French troops from Mexico within one or two years. The emperor Maximilian (the correspondent adds) is very unwilling to accede to the proposal, but the French Emperor insists upon his assent, giving him, however, to understand, if, at the time of the contemplated withdrawal of the troops, the state of things in America and Europe should render it proper for France to leave her troops in Mexico, arrangements will be so modified as to suit the then existing state of things. In the opinion of the same writer, this arrangement will be perfected in time for Napoleon to announce this fact at the opening of the next French Chambers, and it is intended to pacify the United States, on the one hand, leaving Napoleon, on the other, full liberty for the future. A few weeks will test the truth of this writer's prediction. I should say many of the diplomats at this court place full confidence in his statements.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH A. WRIGHT.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

BELGIUM.

No. 227.

Mr. Sanford to Mr. Seward.

No. 236.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Brussels, February 1, 1865.

SIR: M. de Balan delivered his letter of credence to the King as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Prussia near this court, on the 25th ultimo; Prince de Reuss, who had been previously designated for this post, having been appointed to Munich.

I have had the honor to receive in due course your despatches Nos. 154 to 158, inclusive.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

H. S. SANFORD.

P. S.—Another detachment of the Belgo-Mexican Legion, and, I believe, the last, numbering about two hundred men, sailed for Vera Cruz, *via* Saint Nazaire, on the 14th ultimo.

H. S. S.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, &c., &c., &c.

No. 228.

Mr. Sanford to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 246.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Brussels, March 13, 1865.

SIR: I had the honor to enclose to you in my despatch No. 214 the report of the debate in the House of Representatives on recruiting in this country for the Belgo-Mexican legion, and the result, viz., a vote on Mr. Bara's motion that "the house, in view of the formal declaration that the government has remained, and will continue to remain, completely aloof (*étranger*) from the formation of a corps destined to serve in Mexico, passes to the order of the day."

On the 24th ultimo the debate was again opened upon the subject, which is a thorn in the side of the government that the extremes of both parties appear to delight in vexing, upon the report of the committee to whom were referred two petitions touching the legality of these enlistments; one of the petitions is by Mr. Vandenkerhove, a lawyer here, being a pamphlet of considerable volume, invoking on this subject the action of the laws, and more especially the 92d article of the penal code, against recruiting in Belgium for foreign service.

Five of the ministers of the government took part in the discussion, which was quite animated, and which served to bring forward the fact of the personal sympathies in this enterprise of several of them, including the minister of foreign affairs, while at the same time all insisted that the government had not, as such, taken any part in it. A request was made of the minister of war for the documents bearing upon the formation of this legion, and these appear in the Moniteur of yesterday.

After a day's discussion, the report of the committee, referring the petition to the minister of justice and of the interior, was adopted.

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The first, under date of the 25th of July, is a circular, signed in behalf of the minister, addressed to the generals commanding territorial divisions or army corps, "to give, without delay, to Lieutenant General Chapelie, *pensionné*, all the facilities which he may ask for the accomplishment of the mission with which he is charged."

The second, under date of 3d September, (the day after the vote before mentioned,) is a circular to the same authorities, as follows: "The intervention of the government, in accordance with the desire expressed by the House of Representatives, being to remain aloof from the said organization of a Mexican corps, I have to recall to you that you can execute no act which can engage the responsibility of the government."

These are accompanied by the royal decrees of 8th October and 19th No-

vember, 1864, and 10th February, 1865, authorizing officers and soldiers "to serve temporarily in the armies of his majesty the emperor of Mexico," and continue to them their Belgian nationality.

According to the minister's statement in the house, 875 authorizations were given to officers and soldiers to enlist; and according to statements made in the course of the debate, it would seem that the whole number recruited in the Belgo-Mexican legion was from 1,200 to 1,500.

There have been difficulties, before referred to, growing out of the want of means and dissatisfaction of the soldiers, which have prevented the raising the 2,000 originally contemplated, and complaints of the soldiers from Mexico, and their parents here, which are now beginning to be heard, will probably make this a sore subject for some time to come.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

H. S. SANFORD.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, &c., &c., &c.

No. 229.

Mr. Sanford to Mr. Seward.

No. 252.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Brussels, April 12, 1865.

SIR: I transmit herewith from the Moniteur the report of another debate which took place in the house on the 4th and 5th instant, upon *interpellations*, by M. Delaet, a member of the opposition from Antwerp, touching the organization of the Belgo-Mexican corps of volunteers for the service of Mexico.

No new facts of special moment were elicited during a discussion marked by considerable bitterness and violence of language.

The following motion proposed by M. Coomans, of the opposition—"The house, regretting that the government has not remained completely aloof from the Belgo-Mexican expedition, passes to the order of the day"—was rejected by 27 to 44 votes. The motion of M. Bara, that "the house, in view of the explanations given by the government, persists in its decision of the 2d September, and passes to the order of the day," was adopted; the portion of the liberal party opposed to the Mexican expedition being evidently unwilling to aid the opposition in weakening or overthrowing the ministry.

The most notable event in connection with this debate is that it appears to have led to a duel between M. Delaet and the minister of war, in which the latter was slightly wounded.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

H. S. SANFORD.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, &c., &c., &c.

No. 230.

Mr. Sanford to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 277.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Brussels, May 29, 1865.

SIR: Mourning has been brought to many families here by the news from Mexico of the destruction of a detachment of the Belgian legion in a combat at Tamcaburo, in the State of Michoacan, on the 11th of April. It is stated in the

published reports that the whole detachment of about 300 men were either killed, wounded, or taken prisoners. Among the killed is a son of the minister of war, General de Chazal, who was a captain, and seven other officers. * *

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

H. S. SANFORD.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, &c., &c, &c.

No. 231.

Mr. Sanford to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 284.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Brussels, May 31, 1865.

SIR: The order of the day to the army, of the minister of war, upon the late disaster to a portion of the Belgian corps in Mexico, of which mention was made in my despatch No. 277, appeared in the Moniteur yesterday, and was the subject of *interpellations* by M. Coomans in the house, who expressed his regrets at this association of the Belgo-Mexican legion with the army of Belgium.

M. Rogier replied that the minister of war had communicated the account received direct from the military cabinet at Mexico to the army and to the journals, for the information of all. A sentiment of pride in the gallant conduct of Belgians had, doubtless, influenced him in bringing it thus officially to the knowledge of their former companions in arms; he insisted anew that the departure for Mexico of Belgian volunteers was not a government enterprise; that the Belgian legion, although for the most part going from the army, was not a part of it—did not serve under the Belgian flag or wear a Belgian cockade. There was nothing in this, he thought, to compromise the government.

He was followed by M. D'Hane-Steenhuyse, who insisted anew upon the enrolment of the Belgian legion, composed, he said, in great part of soldiers of the army, who had left it for the purpose, under the express authority of the government, and who might be considered as on leave, as compromising the neutrality of Belgium, likely to expose its commerce to the attack of Juarez's privateers, and in the end to cause difficulties with the United States.

M. Rogier, in reply, treated as absurd the possibility that, in case of an intervention by the United States in Mexico, Belgium would be held responsible for the presence of a thousand Belgians under the Mexican flag; those Belgians had, moreover, he continued, contracted an engagement not to compromise the foreign relations of Belgium, and in the event of a regular war, could return home. As many Belgians, he affirmed, had served in the United States under the American flag during the late war as were now under the Mexican flag.

M. Haymans considered the discussion useless; that the Mexican question had been long ago decided by the Chambers, and on three occasions in the sense that there was no Belgium expedition in Mexico, and that if any power could find fault with Belgium under this head, it would be, least of all, the United States, which, according to him, had enrolled soldiers recruited everywhere; and he again insisted upon the charges he had made, in a newspaper which he edits, that Belgians had been enrolled by force into the army of the United States after having been engaged here as laborers.

* * * * * *

I regret not having been supplied by the department with the refutation of these charges to which M. Haymans referred, and which were brought to your knowledge in my despatch No. 222, accompanying the letter of M. Rogier on the subject.

A copy of the "answer of the governor of Massachusetts to inquiries respecting certain emigrants, who have arrived in this country from Europe, and who are alleged to be illegally enlisted in the army of the United States, &c.," printed at the Government Printing Office, came into my hands a short time since, through a private source, and appears to be a complete refutation of these charges. I immediately, on reading the debate referred to, took it to the foreign office and left it for M. Rogier, who was out, with the request that, if it had not already been brought to the attention of the government by its own agents in the United States, he would take cognizance of it; and I propose seeing him to-morrow to repeat the hope I expressed to the secretary general, that he would have the justice to correct the impression which his silence on the occasion of M. Haymans's assertions would seem likely to make on the public as indorsing these scandalous statements.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

H. S. SANFORD.

Hon. W. HUNTER.

ITALY.

No. 232.

Mr. Marsh to Mr. Hunter.

[Extract.]

No. 119.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Turin, May 15, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instruction of April 17, 1865, with the official announcement of the assassination of the President of the United States. I immediately communicated a copy of this announcement to the minister of foreign affairs, and have received a reply, of which a translation is annexed.

I have received a considerable number of addresses, resolutions, and other expressions of condolence with the people of the United States on this sad event, which I shall forward to Washington by the first private conveyance. I retain them in the mean time, because they would form a package somewhat bulky for the mails.

* * * * * * *

There are in circulation many rumors of a projected alliance between France, Austria, Italy, and Spain for the maintenance of the new imperial dynasty in Mexico, at a cost, even, of a war with the United States; and a visit of General Cialdini to Spain, at this moment, is suspected by some to be connected with a negotiation for this end. The whole thing seems extremely improbable as to some of the powers in question, and supremely absurd as to the best interests of all of them. In such a crusade I can hardly believe that this or any other European government, except, perhaps, England, would have the support of its own people; and so transparent an attempt to put down republicanism in America as this would be, might very probably teach European statesmen that democracy is a much more powerful element of opposition to measures of despotic policy than they, at this moment, consider it.

The session of parliament is not yet closed, and the minister of foreign affairs is still here, but the transfer of all the public offices to Florence will probably be completed before the month of June, and I intend to go to that city in the course of the present or the next month.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE P. MARSH.

Hon. WILLIAM HUNTER,
Acting Secretary of State.

No. 233.

Mr. Marsh to Mr. Hunter.

No. 121.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Florence, June 5, 1865.

SIR: I left Turin on Tuesday last and came immediately to this city. I shall make my arrangements for a permanent residence here as rapidly as possible, though, for reasons stated in a former despatch, I shall be obliged to make occasional visits to Turin, until I can secure proper apartments for my family, and the convenience of the legation, which is by no means an easy task. Mr. Clay preceded me by a few days, and has taken lodgings which will serve as an office until a better provision is made.

The foreign office is now established at Florence, although one branch of it, the diplomatic council, as well as some other public offices, still remain at the former capital.

I saw General La Marmora on Saturday. He inquired into our present and probable future relations with Mexico, with no small interest, and I know from various sources that this subject is now occupying the serious attention of Italian statesmen of all shades of political opinion. In case the Emperor Napoleon shall decide to send large re-enforcements to Mexico, I have no doubt whatever that Italy will be called upon to furnish a contingent, and the leading article in the Opinione, a semi-official organ, which I sent to you by the last post, was doubtless intended to prepare public opinion in Italy for such an event.

The pending negotiations with Rome are looked to with much anxiety. Nothing authentic has transpired as to the character of the instructions of the Italian envoy. * * * * * * *

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE P. MARSH.

Hon. WILLIAM HUNTER,
Acting Secretary of State.

No. 234.

Mr. Marsh to Mr. Seward.

[Extracts.]

No. 123.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Florence, June 29, 1865.

SIR: Although I am not officially informed that you have so far recovered as to be able to resume the discharge of your functions of chief of the State De-

partment, I infer from the newspaper accounts that you are again at your post, and I accordingly address this despatch to you.

* * * * * *

You have certainly better means than I can have of judging of the intentions of the French Emperor with regard to Mexico and the United States, but I cannot help attaching some importance to the tone of the Italian ministerial press, and of all the Italian journals in the French interest, in regard to this question. They are evidently still aiming to prepare the public mind for a call from France for a contingent to the French army of occupation in Mexico, and for a possible rupture with the United States. How far these journals speak from ministerial inspiration, and how far from French suggestion, it is hard to say. * *

The negotiations with Rome will be resumed as soon as the preliminary elections are over; and if the present ministry remains in power new concessions will be offered, provided it suits the policy of France to require them. Many suppose the settlement of the Roman question to be especially desired at this moment by Napoleon, in order that both his troops and those of Italy be less embarrassed in their Mexican movements, but I shall be much disappointed if a Gallo-Italic transatlantic war does not end in a Gallo-Italic revolution at home.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE P. MARSH.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *Secretary of State.*

ROME.

No. 235.

Mr. King to Mr. Seward.

No. 33.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES AT ROME,
March 4, 1865.

SIR: I am reminded by the date of my letter that on this day our honored President renews his vow of devotion to the Constitution and laws of our country, and enters upon the second term of his administration.

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I availed myself of an opportunity during the current week to converse with the French ambassador, the Count de Sartiges, about affairs in Mexico, and the rumor, very current in Europe, that Maximilian had ceded certain provinces to Napoleon as security for material and financial aid, of which ex-Senator Gwin was to be viceroy, and which was to form the nucleus of a "confederate" colony. The count treated the story as an absurdity, and repeated what he said to me some months ago, that the Emperor of the French would withdraw all his troops from Mexico at the earliest opportunity.

Bishop Lynch is still in Rome, though in no accredited official position. I hear, however, that he and those who sympathize with him profess confident hopes of some European demonstration in behalf of the so-called Confederate States on or immediately after this the 4th day of March. I do not myself entertain any apprehensions on the subject. Europe has enough to do at home, while the United States of America have abundantly proved that they can take care of themselves, and neither ask nor fear any foreign intervention.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

RUFUS KING.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *Secretary of State.*

No. 236.

Mr. King to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 36.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES AT ROME,
April 22, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of despatch No. 26, from the State Department, under date of March 7, in reply to mine of February 11, and expressing satisfaction with the contents thereof.

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The Franco-Italian treaty continues to excite lively discussions in the diplomatic and political circles of Europe. It is not easy, in the midst of the varying opinions expressed and the conflicting rumors circulated, to predict with confidence the results of that convention. The chief interest hinges upon the future status of the Pope, and the probabilities of his leaving or remaining in Rome, in the event of the withdrawal of the French troops. I had a long conversation with the French ambassador, Count Sartiges, on this topic a day or two since. The count expressed the belief that matters were approaching a crisis; that the Pope was pressed by conflicting counsels, one party (the ultra-montane) urging him to abandon Rome, and the other opposing such a step as suicidal; that the issue was with the Holy Father himself, who thus far, at least, was strongly disinclined to leave the Vatican. That in his, the count's, judgment, the departure of the Pope from Rome would be the signal for a general convulsion in Italy, if not throughout Europe, and that the peace of the world might depend upon the Pope's remaining in the imperial city, where he thought his person would always be secure and his authority respected. Count Sartiges further informed me that the Pope had addressed an autograph letter to Victor Emanuel, with a view to bring about a conference touching the questions of church and state, in issue between the papal and Italian governments, and that within a few days an accredited representative had arrived in Rome from Victor Emanuel, charged with a reply to the papal missive. He regarded this, he added, as a very important step in the right direction, for that would be the happiest possible solution of the problem, which, leaving the spiritual power of the Holy Father unquestioned, should sustain his temporal authority by Italian bayonets. I have given quite fully the substance of the French ambassador's remarks, as I thought them very significant and based upon intimate knowledge of the facts.

Passing from Italian topics we conversed briefly about American affairs. The count said that he regarded the last news as entirely conclusive and the war as substantially at an end. His apprehension then was that some trouble might grow up between the United States and Maximilian. He did not fear any hostile or aggressive action on the part of our government; certainly not, he said, so long as the State Department continues to be managed by the same able statesman who had presided over it during the past four years; but there was danger that forty or fifty thousand desperate or adventurous men, thrown out of active service by the return of peace, might, at any moment, cross over from the southwest into Mexico, while there never would be wanting a Juarist chief to issue a pronunciamiento and give to the movement the color of a revolution. I assured the count that, peace once restored, the aim and policy of our government and people would be to cultivate friendly relations with all mankind, and that so long as our rights were respected and fair treatment extended to us we should be the last power to resort to war.

I cannot close this despatch without tendering to our honored President and

his faithful cabinet my heartfelt congratulations upon the glorious successes which have crowned the Union arms and cause. "Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory!"

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

RUFUS KING.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 237.

Mr. King to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 40.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES AT ROME,
May 24, 1865.

SIR: Since my despatch of May 13, nothing has transpired in Rome calling for special mention. The discussion to which I referred in my last, as to the result of the pending conference or correspondence between the Pope and Victor Emanuel, is still going on in diplomatic and political circles. It is doubtful, however, whether any material progress has yet been made towards a solution of the different questions involved. The return of M. Vegezzi, the envoy of Victor Emanuel, is daily looked for here, and it is generally supposed that he will bring with him some definite proposals on the part of the King of Italy. The feeling of opposition to any compromise or reconciliation between the Pope and the King does not seem to abate either with the ultra-montane party in the church or the radicals among the people, and the hope of a favorable issue to the negotiations appears to be less strong than it was a fortnight since.

Among the rumors received from America by the last arrival was one which has created some excitement and elicited a variety of comments on this side of the Atlantic. It is that which refers to the proposed "emigration" of many disbanded officers and soldiers of the federal army to Mexico, with the view of taking service under Juarez. The course which Maximilian has pursued towards the church since he ascended the throne of the Montezumas has cost him a large share of the popularity which he enjoyed at Rome a year ago, and there were not a few of the Catholic dignitaries who expressed the hope that the Austrian archduke may speedily find it advisable to return to Europe. Some of the French journals, accepting the rumor as a fact, see in it a threat against France, and seek to hold the federal government responsible for any movement of the kind. In conversing, however, last evening on this subject with the French ambassador, Count Sartiges, I was glad to hear him express the utmost confidence that, so long as the State Department at Washington continued to be guided by the same able hands and wise counsels which had controlled its action during the past four years, there need be no fear of any difficulty or misunderstanding between the United States and France.

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I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

RUFUS KING.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *&c., &c., &c.*

No. 238.

Mr King to Mr. Hunter.

No. 41.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES AT ROME,
June 2, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the circular from the State Department, under date of May 16, enclosing two copies of the President's proclamation of May 10, relative to insurgent cruisers, one of which I am directed to communicate, without delay, to the government to which I am accredited. In accordance with these instructions, I this morning presented to the cardinal secretary of state a copy of the proclamation in question, with a brief explanation of its contents.

I availed myself of the opportunity to converse with his eminence on the subject of American affairs. He rejoiced, he said, to see that the war was entirely over, and that the questions remaining to be disposed of were of trifling importance compared with the great one which had been so effectually settled. Alluding to the capture of Jefferson Davis, the cardinal expressed the hope that the government might find it consistent with its views of duty to spare the life which he had forfeited to the outraged laws of his country. I remarked to his eminence that of one thing at least he might rest assured—that no feeling of vengeance would dictate the course pursued, and that fewer victims would fall at the close of our great civil war than in any other similar struggle recorded in history.

The cardinal adverted to our existing relations with England and France, and the causes which might disturb them. Of these he seemed to think that Mexico was the most prominent. I assured his eminence that the American government would not permit any "filibustering" expedition to be fitted out in the United States, with a view to upset Maximilian and expel his French protectors from Mexico. At the same time I expressed the belief that the Austrian archduke could not maintain his authority there without foreign help, and when that was withdrawn—as it shortly must be—he would probably follow in their footsteps. The cardinal coincided in this opinion, and added that when consulted on the subject by Maximilian, upwards of a year ago, he had cautioned the Austrian prince against undertaking the enterprise. All that his eminence said, indeed, confirmed the view taken in my last despatch, as to the feeling now entertained by the papal court towards Maximilian and his projected empire on the western continent.

I mentioned to the cardinal that, within a few days past, Bishop Lynch, of Charleston, South Carolina, a reputed confederate agent, had applied to me, through a friend, to know upon what conditions he would be allowed to return to South Carolina and resume his clerical functions. The cardinal remarked, in reply, that the bishop had never been received or recognized in any way as an accredited representative of Jefferson Davis, and that, like every other good Catholic, resident in the United States, it was his bounden duty to honor, respect, and obey the constituted authorities of the government under whose protection he lived.

The envoy of Victor Emanuel, M. Vegezzi, is expected to return to Rome on Monday next. This is another step forward in the pending negotiations between the Pope and the King of Italy; but no prediction can yet be safely hazarded as to the final result.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

RUFUS KING.

Hon. W. HUNTER,
Acting Secretary of State.

NETHERLANDS.

No. 239.

Mr. Pike to Mr. Hunter.

No. 166.] UNITED STATES LEGATION.
The Hague, May 17, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 21st, 22d, 24th, and 28th of April, Nos. 228, 229, 230, and one not numbered; also your two despatches of May 2, Nos. 230 and 231, (also No. 232,) the latter containing the gratifying intelligence of the continued improvement in the condition of the Secretary of State and the Assistant Secretary.

The rapid progress of military events during the month of April has taken everybody by surprise by their remarkable completeness. Europe views our final triumphant successes with the liveliest interest. They have alike disappointed the hopes and falsified the confident predictions of the ruling classes here, with few exceptions. The question now uppermost with all is, "What will become of the intrusive emperor of Mexico?"

On the reception of the news of the surrender of Johnston with the remaining forces of the rebellion I addressed a note to the minister of foreign affairs, of which I enclose a copy.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

JAMES S. PIKE.

Hon. WILLIAM HUNTER,
Acting Secretary of State, Washington.

No. 240.

Mr. Pike to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 178.] UNITED STATES LEGATION,
The Hague, October 18, 1865.

SIR: I am without any of your favors excepting yours of the 2d instant, No. 552. * * * * * * * *

The recent publication by the British government of the late correspondence between Earl Russell and Mr. Adams on the Alabama and kindred claims has largely occupied public attention. The apparently positive announcement that the English government will not submit those claims to arbitration excites a little uneasiness.

The report (I suppose unfounded) of a recent peremptory correspondence of our government with France on the Mexican question has had a similar effect.

The popular mind is alert to snuff the daily apprehension in the conduct of the now "great republic."

Following the scornful taunts of the last four years, these apprehensions are not, perhaps, unnatural.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

JAMES S. PIKE.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

No. 241.

Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 3.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Stockholm, September 27, 1864.

SIR: In my despatch of the 20th instant I had the honor to inform you of my arrival here, and of an interview with Count Manderstrom, his Majesty's minister of state and of foreign affairs. Upon the return of the King from Ouland, on the 23d instant, I received a note from Count Manderstrom informing me that my audience with his Majesty would take place at the palace on Saturday, the 24th instant, at three-quarters past one o'clock p. m., and a subsequent note informing me that on Sunday, the 25th instant, I would be presented to her Majesty the Queen at the royal palace of Ulriksdale. At the appointed time on Saturday I was accordingly taken in charge by the grand master of ceremonies and King's chamberlain, and conducted in the King's carriage, with the usual ceremonies, to the palace. My interview with his Majesty, after the customary salutations, was cordial and unceremonious; I could not have been received more kindly by any gentleman in Europe. In delivering my letter of credence, I assured his Majesty that I was charged to convey to his Majesty the distinguished consideration and personal regards of the President of the United States, and to express the earnest desire that the amicable relations, both commercial and political, existing between the government of the United States and that of his Majesty, might be perpetuated. I took occasion to say during the interview that the President of the United States felt assured that the same enlightened judgment and experienced statesmanship that so ably directed affairs in his Majesty's kingdoms secured to the Executive and people of the United States, engaged in sustaining an established and Christian government, his Majesty's profound sympathy. The King reciprocated my friendly expressions, and avowed himself sincerely desirous of continuing amicable relations with the government of the United States.

My subsequent interview with the Queen at Chateau Ulriksdale was as agreeable as interesting. Her Majesty was pleased to make many inquiries about the productions, climate, and people of my country, and appeared well informed concerning the United States. A note from Count Manderstrom informs me that the Queen Dowager Josephine will grant me audience at her country-seat of Dottingholm on the evening of, and immediately before, the ball to be given by her to their royal highnesses the prince and princess of Wales. On that occasion I will probably be presented to the other members of the royal family, thus completing the ceremony of reception.

In this connection I may with propriety state that in my audiences with their Majesties I was preceded by Mr. Mora, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the emperor of Mexico. At a dinner given by Count Manderstrom, minister of state and of foreign affairs, the various honors which Swedish etiquette permits upon such occasions were bestowed upon the representatives of the continent of America, being distributed between the Mexican envoy, the retiring American minister, and his successor. The reception of Mr. Mora in his official capacity by the King will, it is believed, be followed by the establishment of a minister plenipotentiary of Mexico near his Majesty, unless circumstances of marked significance mar the plans of the emperor of that country.

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The Swedish military and naval departments having in charge the subject of military mining, have of late been making a series of experiments under the direction of Colonel J. P. Shaffner, who claims to be a loyal citizen of Kentucky, in the Malar lake. Colonel Shaffner claims to be able to explode a mine in water, or in earth, at any distance, say within twenty miles, with fuzes so constructed that there cannot be a failure of explosion instantaneously. The apparatus, or battery, is so portable that a youth can carry it from point to point, and so simple that it is always ready for use. He can explode one mine or one hundred at the same time or consecutively. I have seen the wrecks of the gunboats destroyed by Colonel Shaffner experimentally. Their destruction was complete. He has been able to explode a mine here at a distance of one and one-half mile, want of additional wire having limited the experiment to that distance, while the military authorities here having the subject in charge were only able to pass a spark over six hundred feet of wire.

Military men have informed me that during the battle of Alsen Colonel Shaffner, at 5 a. m., was ordered to mine a narrow strip of land, having the sea on both sides, over which the Danish army was obliged to retreat. Before 9 o'clock a. m. the mine was finished, and for a period of three days fifteen thousand Prussians remained in sight of the Danish army, not daring to traverse the mined territory. When the royal commission shall report upon the invention and experiments of Colonel Shaffner, I shall take pleasure in forwarding a copy to the Department of State.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. CAMPBELL.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, &c., &c., &c.

No. 242.

Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.

No. 7.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Stockholm, November 5, 1864.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt from the department of despatches of October 5, No. 2; October 10, No. 47, (addressed to Mr. Haldeman;) October 13, No. 3, and October 17, No. 4.

An early opportunity was embraced by me to say to Count Manderstrom, in pursuance of instructions contained in your despatch No. 2, that the appointment of Baron Nils de Wetterstedt as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Washington was duly appreciated as a mark of the friendly regard of his Majesty towards the United States; and I further assured Count Manderstrom that the Baron de Wetterstedt would be cordially welcomed by the President as the representative from the King of Sweden and Norway.

Count Manderstrom expressed much gratification at the intelligence, and remarked that the Baron de Wetterstedt was well known at Washington.

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I have not been able to learn, after diligent inquiry, that the insurgents are making any efforts at present to purchase vessels or ordnance within the limits of this legation.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. CAMPBELL.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, &c., &c., &c.

No. 243.

Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.

No. 9.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Stockholm, December 13, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, on the 11th instant, of your despatches No. 7, of the 18th November, and No. 8, of the 19th November last.

In accordance with instructions contained in despatch No. 8, I sought an early interview with Count Manderstrom, minister of state and of foreign affairs. His excellency received me with his usual cordiality, and hastened to communicate the contents of despatches announcing the progress and success of our armies in Georgia, under General Sherman. I then opened the business with which I was charged, by saying that my government had learned with regret that the Baron Nils de Wetterstedt had been despatched to Mexico, on business of a diplomatic nature, as the envoy of his Majesty; that while on a recent occasion it had afforded me great pleasure to express on the part of my government sentiments of appreciation and welcome, in accordance with the high official and private character of Baron Wetterstedt, I was now pained to say to his excellency that his official errand to Mexico was far from being satisfactory to the United States, and that if it did not prevent his official reception, it would certainly impair the cordiality of his welcome; that in thus speaking I did not exceed the letter or spirit of my instructions.

Count Manderstrom here expressed regret that the mission of Baron Wetterstedt should be thus regarded by the United States; and argued that not having reached Washington, or been officially received by my government, he could not be considered as minister to the United States while on his errand to Mexico.

To this I answered, that the note of his excellency, on file in the Department of State at Washington, announcing the diplomatic trust confided to the Baron Wetterstedt, and the reply of welcome on the part of the United States, certainly established inchoate relations in the contemplation of both governments.

Count Manderstrom then assured me that the fact complained of did not originate in any want of respect to the government of the United States; that it had not been practicable or desirable for the governments of Europe to maintain relations with Mexico in her former disturbed condition; that the empire of Mexico was now the only government in that country; that it had, through diplomatic agencies, claimed, and received, recognition of most of the powers of Europe, and he did not think the United States could complain of Sweden adding her recognition to that of her neighbors.

I rejoined, that the United States maintained amicable and full relations with the republic of Mexico, and knew no other government in that country; that she regarded with disapprobation the attempt to establish on her borders institutions inimical to her own; that while the right of recognition, claimed by all sovereign states, involved responsibilities, I was not instructed to make that the ground of complaint in this instance. But it must be apparent to his excellency, in view of the distinctly enunciated sentiments of my government, that any intercourse with the so-called empire, through the envoyé to the United States, must be regarded by them with displeasure.

Count Manderstrom then remarked, he understood, and thought he was not mistaken in saying, that Russia and Belgium had directed their respective representatives at Washington, Mr. Stoeckl and Mr. Blondeel von Ceelebroeck, to proceed to Mexico on similar errands. I contented myself with observing, that upon this fact, or the consequent action of my government, I was not informed.

The minister of foreign affairs then, with great earnestness and warmth, repeated his assurance that no disrespect to the United States had been intended. He reminded me of the long-established friendship of Sweden for the United States, and her consistent avoidance of recognition, or assistance to the confederate rebels, and the frequent aid his Majesty's subjects had rendered in our armies, thus showing the sympathy which our cause received here, and he sincerely hoped the good understanding heretofore existing might not be interrupted. I expressed the appreciation of the government of the United States for the friendship of Sweden and Norway, and assured him I should take pleasure in conveying the sentiments declared by him to my government, and rose to leave. Count Manderstrom accompanied me to the door, hoping that I would convey the full import of his expressions of respect and amity to my government, and with much frankness added, taking my hand in his, "My dear sir, it was simply a question of economy; Russia has done the same thing, and you know," said he, laughingly, "you are very good friends with Russia." "Not better than we have been with Sweden," said I, and took my leave.

In the course of the conversation Count Manderstrom remarked that Baron Wetterstedt would only remain in Mexico about five days.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

JAMES H. CAMPBELL.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, &c., &c., &c.

No. 244.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.

No. 11.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, January 10, 1865.

SIR: Your despatch of the 13th of December, No. 9, has been received. Count Manderstrom must have been misinformed. Russia has not directed Mr. Stoeckl to leave his mission here to perform a duty in another quarter—such as the count supposes. The United States acknowledge with pleasure the relations of cordial friendship existing between themselves and Russia. But this friendship is neither more intimate nor more cordial than that which the United States desire to preserve with Sweden. They would deeply regret any occurrence that should show that this desire is not reciprocated on the part of Sweden.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

JAMES H. CAMPBELL, Esq., *&c., &c., Stockholm.*

TURKEY.

No. 245.

Mr. Morris to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 108.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Constantinople, March 29, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of despatch No. 86, of the date of February 11, and to transmit a translation of the note of Ali Pacha, minister of foreign affairs, to the Turkish minister in London, relative to the question of religious toleration in the Turkish empire.

It is important that the views of the Turkish government on this subject should be put on record among our own state papers, that the religious community in the United States may understand to what extent the free exercise and teaching of Christianity is allowed in the dominions of the Sultan, and to what restrictions it is subjected. As the American missionaries in Turkey have never made themselves amenable to any of the accusations of this note, it is unnecessary for me to repel them on their part.

In despatch No. 96 I mentioned that the government of the Sultan had appointed Haidar Effendi as special envoy to the government of the emperor Maximilian, to reciprocate the complimentary mission of Martinez del Rio. It now appears that no minister will be accredited by the Porte, in any capacity, to Mexico.

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I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

E. JOY MORRIS.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

No. 246.

Mr. Morris to Mr. Hunter.

[Extract.]

No. 115.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Constantinople, May 18, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit, enclosed, addresses of condolence on the death of President Lincoln from the British residents of Constantinople and the printed account of the proceedings in connection with the same, and from the native Protestant community of this place, through their head Mr. Seropyan.

* * * * * * *

General Marquez, a special envoy from the so-called emperor Maximilian of Mexico, has arrived here for the purpose of delivering to the Sultan the decoration of the Order of Guadalupe.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. JOY MORRIS.

Hon. WILLIAM HUNTER,
Acting Secretary of State.

No. 247.

Mr. Morris to Mr. Hunter.

[Extract.]

No. 116.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Constantinople, May 25, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit a letter of condolence on the part of the Shah of Persia and one from the Greek minister of foreign affairs to the Greek consul at New York. The letter has been communicated to me by the minister of Greece to the Porte, by order of his government, with the request that I should forward it to my government.

The object of the visit of General Marquez, the special envoy of the so-

called emperor Maximilian, is limited to the purpose designated in my last despatch. The grand vizier declares to be without foundation the report that the Porte will give him its sanction for the incorporation of the Egyptian blacks into the imperial army, and of a further contingent of black troops from Egypt. He said, in reply to my inquiries on the subject, that the Porte would have nothing to do with such an affair. I learn, however, that General Marquez expects to receive at Vienna four battalions and a regiment for the service of Maximilian. The soldiers enlisted in Europe for this purpose are needy adventurers, whom necessity, and not sympathy with the imperial cause, has induced to accept the proffers of the agents of Maximilian. They are not such a class of men as can be relied on to support a government in the hour of adversity. The desire to get to America also is so great that men will embrace any pretext to compass their wishes in this respect. Never was there a time when the hearts of the million masses of Europe throbbed so warmly to the United States as now, and never was there less sympathy with any movements directed against the spread of our political principles on the American continent.

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I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. JOY MORRIS

Hon. WILLIAM HUNTER,
Acting Secretary of State.

No. 248.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Morris.

No. 93.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington, September 21, 18[illegible]

SIR: A despatch has been received at the department from Mr. Hale, agent and consul general of the United States at Alexandria, announcing that nine hundred negroes from the Soudan or upper country of Egypt, within the jurisdiction of the Pacha, were expected shortly to arrive at Alexandria to be embarked in French transports for Mexico, to relieve the contingent which was sent out in January, 1863. The latter proceeding, as you are aware, excited much comment at the time, but it passed unnoticed by this government, which was then seriously occupied with a peculiar condition of merely domestic affairs, and with the foreign embarrassments which grew out of that condition. Since then the United States have abolished slavery. The attention of Congress as well as that of the executive department and of the country has been very steadily fixed upon the course of events in Mexico, which I need not say form a subject of serious concern with regard to the safety of free republican institutions on this continent—an object with which we are accustomed to connect the desired ultimate consequence of the abolition of every form of compulsory civil or military servitude on this hemisphere.

You are instructed to bring this matter to the attention of the Turkish government, and to state that, in the opinion of this government, the renewal of the transaction referred to could not be regarded with favor, or even without deep anxiety, by the people of the United States. It will be proper for you to inform the minister for foreign affairs that I have written upon the subject in the same sense herein adopted to the diplomatic agent of the United States at Paris, and to the consul general at Alexandria.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

E. JOY MORRIS, Esq., *&c., &c., Constantinople.*

No. 249.

Mr. Morris to Mr. Seward.

No. 130.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Constantinople, October 29, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of despatch No. 93, dated September 21, relative to the negro troops about to be sent from Egypt to Mexico. In conformity with the instructions from the department, I have made his Highness Ali Pacha, minister of foreign affairs, acquainted with the contents of the same. He informed me that the Ottoman government was in nowise connected with the sending of the original contingent of negro troops from Egypt to Mexico; that it first became cognizant of the transaction through the public prints, and that at my request in 1863 it had addressed the late viceroy on the subject. He replied by telegram (and it was the last communication received from him, for he was then in a dying condition) that it was an inconsiderate act on his part, of which he deeply repented, but that it was then too late to recall the engagement he had contracted with the French Emperor. The affair was altogether surreptitious so far as the consent of the Porte was necessary to its authorization.

His Highness further observed that the present Pacha of Egypt, during his visit here last summer, had represented the great embarrassment he felt on this subject; that a request had been made to him by the French Emperor for a further contingent of negro troops to supply the losses occasioned by war and disease in the ranks of those originally sent, and that he deemed himself in some degree constrained by courtesy to a friendly sovereign and the example of his predecessor to comply with the request, and that he desired to know if the Porte would interpose any objections.

His Highness replied to this inquiry, after consultation with his Majesty the Sultan, that the Porte must not be considered as privy to the transaction; that it was originally entered upon without its knowledge or approbation, and that while, owing to the peculiar circumstances of the case, it would now insist on the cancelling of the obligations already contracted with the French Emperor by the viceroy, it must express the hope that this would be the last of such an impolitic proceeding. The Pacha assured his Highness that the wishes of the Porte would, in this respect, be complied with. His Highness added that none of these negroes were slaves. He said that the minister of Maximilian at this court, General Marquez, had never spoken to him on the matter.

In conclusion he remarked that the Porte entertained a sincere feeling of respect and friendship for the government of the United States; that it regarded it as its natural ally; that it admired the principles of equity and justice by which its intercourse with other nations was regulated, and, as he had often assured me, his Majesty the Sultan, and all the members of the Ottoman government, most cordially rejoiced in the re-establishment of the integrity of the American Union, and, as I was also aware, their sympathies during the late civil war had invariably been on the side of the constituted government of the United States. He begged me also to convey to the President of the United States the assurance that the government of his Majesty the Sultan desired to be understood as having no wish to interfere directly or indirectly against the interests of the government of the United States or of those of the American people, but that, on the contrary, it would be most happy to promote them whenever the occasion offered.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. JOY MORRIS.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

EGYPT.

No. 250.

Mr. Hale to Mr. Seward.

No. 41.] AGENCY AND CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE U. S. OF AMERICA,
Alexandria, Egypt, August 26, 1865.

SIR: Nine hundred negroes from the Soudan or upper country of Egypt, within the jurisdiction of the Pacha, are expected shortly to arrive at Alexandria to be embarked in French transports for Mexico to relieve the contingent furtively sent out in the month of January, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three. I must give the Pacha credit for putting me in possession of full and early information on the subject in the most frank possible manner. On this occasion, at least, there is nothing clandestine about the proceeding. I told him that I regretted to hear of the movement, and wished, at least, that it might be delayed. He said that it was simply the execution of an agreement made between his predecessor, Said Pacha, and the Emperor of the French, three years ago; that the number of soldiers in service would not be increased by a single unit; that the number was inconsiderable, being only one battalion, or the fourth part of a regiment, and not exceeding nine hundred in all, officers included. He gave me the most positive assurance that it is not proposed to increase this number. The Pacha then fell into a line of conversation which, especially as he expressed a wish that it might be regarded as confidential, it is not necessary to report in detail, more than to say that he expressed to me no interest, wish, or expectation to see the successful establishment of an empire in Mexico under French auspices. He ridiculed the small effective results reached by the French in their efforts at colonization everywhere, and pointed with some pride to the small number of troops with which he keeps order in his own dominions compared to the great number of French troops always in service in Algeria, citing the recent pamphlet of the Emperor of the French for proof that, after all, that country is not well governed. He regards the sending out of this relief corps as a necessary act of humanity to the Egyptian negroes who are now in Mexico, while he thinks that he cannot in good faith escape the maintenance of a small force there in respect of the engagements entered into by his predecessor. The whole cost of the movement, which is "enormous," is paid by the French government. The Pacha made this point with emphasis, using the word "enormous" (or rather, its French equivalent) no less than three times, and betrayed evident satisfaction that the expenses do not come out of his own purse.

The circumstances of the original movement are described in the despatch of my predecessor No. 27, under date of January 18, 1865. Mr. Thayer addressed most energetic remonstrances to Said Pacha, and to his minister, and obtained a positive assurance that the number of the contingent should not be increased. Said Pacha was then actually on his death-bed, and his demise is reported in the same despatch. Of one ground of remonstrance to the movement suggested by Mr. Thayer, namely, the violation it implies of the suzerainty of the Porte, it may be remarked, in addition to the fact that it has heretofore proved futile, and to other reasons which exist for not pressing it at this time, that as the Pacha has just returned from Constantinople, it may not be improbable that he has prepared himself with the necessary permission.

In the course of the conversation the Pacha told me that the Egyptian army list numbered about twenty thousand, of whom, as I understood, about eight thousand are in active service in various parts of the country. From other sources I have learned that the mortality in the army, from cholera, has been frightful. The Pacha, however, remarked that only one of his negroes had died from yellow fever in Mexico, saying that it appeared that the negro constitution

was proof against such maladies. I hinted to him that if he can spare a few hundred soldiers peculiarly fit for service in Mexico, the United States have lately had under arms more than one hundred thousand of the same race. These men would be, in like manner, peculiarly fit for service in Egypt if the vicious principle of interference which supports the empire in Mexico, to which the Pacha lends his soldiers, should at any time be retaliated by us. Hitherto we have practiced the contrary principle, and have expected other governments to respect it, at least so far as America is concerned; and, without intervening ourselves in Oriental politics, "what the Pacha has done in Mexico at the request of another power, the United States might do in Egypt at the request of some friendly power."

These and other arguments, of course, might be pressed upon the Egyptian government, to prevent the departure of the relief. What I have already said to the Pacha will serve very well as a foundation for any formal communication in the way of an objection or protest that you may think advisable to instruct me to make; or, in case it is deemed best to let the matter rest without further remark, I think you need not hesitate to believe that, while the Pacha cannot very readily get rid of the subsisting engagement made by his predecessor, he has wit enough of his own to see that his sending troops to America, however inconsiderable in number, is a thing not particularly agreeable to the people of the United States, and that it would be very foolish for him to do anything more that might have the effect to provoke an intervention of the United States against him in some possible turn of Egyptian affairs.

No doubt you will regard the sending of this relief from Egypt in connection with the recruiting in Europe for the Belgian and Austrian legions for service in Mexico, the renewal of the French forces there, and other matters, of the views of the government with regard to which I am not apprised.

My audience with the Pacha took place at Cairo yesterday, and the overland mail which must take forward this despatch is already announced. But, unless upon reflection (for which as yet I have had little time) I should conclude to make a formal representation in writing to the Egyptian government, addressed to the minister of foreign affairs, I shall content myself for the present with the general remarks I have already made verbally to the Pacha, awaiting your further instructions.

Although the arrival of the negroes from the upper country may be expected at any time, everything moves so slowly in Egypt that it would not be at all surprising if it were to be considerably delayed.

I have taken advantage of the departure of one of the American missionaries for the upper country to arrange for timely confidential information of their coming.

I believe nothing is known of the matter in general circles here. It had not been mentioned to me by any of my colleagues.

I was gratified on the 19th instant by the receipt of your instruction No. 10, of July 24th.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES HALE.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

No. 251.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Hale.

No. 13.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, September 21, 1865.

SIR: Your despatch of August 26, No. 41, has been received. It announces that nine hundred negroes from the upper country of Egypt, within the juris-

diction of the Pacha, are expected shortly to arrive at Alexandria, to be embarked in French transports for Mexico, to relieve the contingent which was sent out in January, 1863. The latter proceeding, as you are aware, excited much comment at the time; but it passed unnoticed by this government, which was then seriously occupied with a peculiar condition of merely domestic affairs, and with the foreign embarrassments which grew out of that condition. Since then the United States have abolished slavery. The attention of Congress, as well as that of the executive department and of the country, has been very steadily fixed upon the course of events in Mexico, which, I need not say, form a subject of serious concern with regard to the safety of the free republican institutions of this country, an object with which we are accustomed to connect the desired ultimate consequence of the abolition of every form of compulsory civil or military servitude in this hemisphere.

You are instructed to bring this matter to the attention of the Pacha's minister for foreign affairs, and to state to him that, in the opinion of this government, the renewal of the transaction alluded to could not be regarded with favor, or even without deep anxiety, by the people of the United States. It will be proper for you to inform the minister that I have written upon the subject, in the same sense herein adopted, to the diplomatic agents of the United States residing respectively at Paris and Constantinople.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

CHARLES HALE, Esq., *&c., &c., Alexandria.*

No. 252.

Mr. Hale to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 44.] AGENCY AND CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE U. S. OF AMERICA,
Alexandria, Egypt, October 27, 1865.

SIR: I received on the 19th instant your No. 13, under date of 21st September, and lost no time in writing to the minister of foreign affairs, who is now in Cairo, in the exact sense of your instruction. No answer has yet been received; but this is not remarkable, for the minister would naturally take the instruction to the Pacha, who has been making an excursion on the Nile so far as Minieh, from which he did not return to Cairo until the morning of the 25th.

Colonel Stanton, the British agent and consul general, to whom I had communicated the substance of my information at the end of August, and who had transmitted it to his government, called on me on the 20th instant (that is, the day after I had received your instruction) and informed me that he had the instructions of his government to remonstrate against any forcible and compulsory deportation of Nubians from Egypt to serve under the French flag in Mexico. I believe these are the exact words of his instruction.

I may mention that the British hold the Egyptian authorities to a very exact fulfilment of their promises for the abolition of slavery. It is certain that slavery still exists in Egypt; but any slave who can manage to get before the British consul is sent with the dragoman of the consulate to the local court, where his free papers are demanded and are accorded. In this way Mr. Reade, British consul at Cairo, and Mr. Stanley, British consul at Alexandria, have secured the manumission of at least twenty each (probably a larger number) since I have been here. In one instance it was a slave woman who had escaped from a Pacha's

harem and fled to Mr. Reade's house. Her master followed and tried to persuade her to return. She was firm, and he was obliged to give her up, although, no doubt, she had cost him a large sum. Mr. Stanley, within a fortnight, has secured the freedom, in a similar manner, for two or three people escaped from the service of a high officer in the Egyptian navy.

It has, no doubt, occurred to Colonel Stanton, and the suggestion, no doubt, would be approved by Lord Russell, that the same principles which led Great Britain to object to forced labor on the Suez canal, and to involuntary domestic servitude in Egypt, apply to compulsory military drafts here for service in Mexico.

Soon after my despatch No. 41 was forwarded, one of the local papers here reproduced, in Italian, a letter, probably from the Independence Belge, connecting Nubra Pacha's visit to Paris with this business. It was stated in this letter that the Egyptian government would place several regiments at the disposal of France to re-enforce the army of occupation in Mexico, and that the question of money was all that remained to be settled between the Egyptian and French governments.

The French local paper printed the day before yesterday some extracts from a paper, by the Count de Kératry, in the Revue des Deux Mondes, extolling the good service of the Egyptian troops in Mexico.

* * * * * * * *

Meanwhile there is no intelligence of the coming of the negroes. A considerable body of Egyptian troops, perhaps as many as four or five thousand, have just come to Alexandria, and are quartered in the barracks at Ras-el-tin. These, however, are not negroes; a considerable portion of them are new recruits, and it is said they are brought here for purposes of drill.

A detachment of French soldiers, from Cochin China, has also just arrived from Suez at Alexandria, and is said to be waiting the arrival of transports to take them back to France. Meanwhile they are quartered on board the hospital ship, which is the only French government vessel now in this harbor.

Three Austrian men-of-war lately arrived and still remain in the harbor.

I shall keep this despatch open until the latest moment before the departure of the mail packet, in order to be able to send any additional information which I may be able to obtain.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES HALE.

No. 253.

Mr. Hale to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 45.] AGENCY AND CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE U. S. OF AMERICA,
Alexandria, Egypt, November 13, 1865.

SIR: Although I have not yet received a formal answer from the minister for foreign affairs, there is no room to doubt that the proposed deportation of negroes from Egypt for military service in Mexico has been abandoned; and there is even some reason to believe that the trouble in the Soudan, which has been assigned in Paris as a reason for the abandonment of the expedition, was caused, if not wholly, at least in part, by the detestation entertained by the people, and especially among the men enrolled for military duty, for the distant service to which it was feared they were to be sent. His Highness the Pacha has not returned to Cairo, and has not remained in any one place more than one

or two days since the date of my last despatch, and I must wait quite unwillingly, but probably not longer than the next post, before I can complete my report on this subject.

* * * * * * * *

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES HALE.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

No. 254.

Mr. Hale to Mr. Seward.

No. 46.] AGENCY AND CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE U. S. OF AMERICA,
Cairo, Egypt, November 18, 1865.

SIR: On the 16th instant I called on his excellency Cherif Pacha, minister for foreign affairs, having come from Alexandria for the purpose on the preceding evening.

The minister courteously made excuses for his delay in answering my note of 20th October, in which I had communicated to him the observations contained in your instructions to me, No. 13, of the 21st September. He told me that he was ready to give me an answer that would be in all respects satisfactory to my government.

I said that I was glad to hear this, and that if he could conveniently send me his answer that day or the next, I could communicate its substance by telegraph to Queenstown, in season to reach you, to be laid before the President before the opening of Congress. He said that he would do so.

We then dropped into a less formal conversation, when I was surprised to learn that the Egyptian government had not abandoned or even scarcely suspended the proposed expedition of negroes to Mexico. The minister expected that you would be entirely satisfied to have the expedition go on, if you were assured that the number of the force now in Mexico would not be increased, and that the soldiers were not slaves; and such was the substance of the formal answer he was about to send me.

As regards the first part of this answer, nothing else was ever proposed, and I told the minister that you could not have understood that anything else was proposed. His Highness had very clearly explained to me that the nine hundred negroes were to be embarked to relieve the contingent sent out in January, 1863; that I reported the proposition exactly in those words, although it was observed that nine hundred was the number given to me, while four hundred and fifty was the number stated to Mr. Thayer in 1863, and reported by him. No remarks had been made even upon this discrepancy. I spoke of the expedition in my despatch as a relief; you began your instruction by rehearsing the words of my despatch in the usual manner, and that your observations must be taken as based upon the distinct understanding that it was proposed to send out the negroes to relieve the contingent already in service.

The minister seemed to take it for granted that the compulsory service of the negroes not only formed the whole objection to the affair in the eyes of the people of the United States, but that if that objection were removed by assurances on his part they would be entirely satisfied to see the expedition go forward.

I told the minister that I knew nothing of personal knowledge of the circumstances of the embarcation of 1863, but I knew how it was described by Mr. Thayer, and what was the general opinion not only in the United States but in Alexandria, where the story of those days in January, 1863, when no black

boas (door-keeper) could be pursuaded to open a door at night for fear of being crimped, and when many black servants ran away to hide for a week in the desert, while the embarcation for Mexico was going on, was still familiar in many households ; and I had supposed that there was no doubt of the furtive and secret character of the proceeding.

With regard to this last remark the minister said, no doubt the embarcation in 1863 was sudden and secret, but this was for a political reason, namely, that it was necessary to keep the thing from the knowledge of the Porte until it was all over; as the whole proceeding at that time was against the Sultan's will, it was arranged to have it finished before his remonstrance could arrive.

To conclude the conversation, however, I told the minister that his Highness had said to me expressly that he should not send the negroes except for the engagement of his predecessor to the Emperor of the French ; that appreciating the position of his Highness, you had addressed your observations to the governments at Paris and Constantinople as well as to his own, and that I knew that the French government had been good enough, while assigning a special reason and reserving its general abstract right, to give up the affair on its part, after receiving your observations, and that I should be sorry if the Egyptian government, after receiving the same observations, found no reason to change the course that had formerly been proposed. I added that the announcement made by Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys to Mr. Bigelow to this effect was made independently of the matter of compulsory service, which had not been discussed between them until after this previous point had been disposed of, and then only as a matter of abstract interest; that Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys had expressly told Mr. Bigelow that the inquiries he proposed to set on foot here with regard to the nature of the service in the Egyptian army were to satisfy himself, and not as a matter of official concern to his government.

Cherif Pacha said this put an entirely new face on the affair, and could scarcely credit the accuracy of my information. To satisfy him I sent to my hotel for the copy which Mr. Bigelow had kindly transmitted to me of his despatch to you, No. 186, reporting his interview with the French minister. I read to Cherif Pacha the principal parts of this despatch, and afterwards, at his request, furnished him with a translation into French.

In sending to Cherif Pacha this translation, I wrote a note to express what was already understood between us, namely, that this was not precisely an official communication; that I was waiting his answer to my official note of the 20th October, and that meanwhile I was willing to add to his information upon the subject. I begged his particular attention to the fact that the note of the 20th October conveyed your observations upon understanding that the proposed expedition of negroes to Mexico was to replace the contingent now in service there. I said that whatever reason might be assigned, the thing needed to tranquillize public opinion in the United States would be to hear that his Highness had been good enough to declare that he did not intend to renew the expedition of Egyptian soldiers to Mexico; that a replacement would be considered as a renewal; that if he liked to make a reserve of his rights in the manner pursued by the French minister, in saying that the proposed expedition was not abandoned, but that in effect it would not take place on account of domestic reasons, I should be satisfied with this, but that of course a definitive abandonment would give us great pleasure ; that I believed France would make no objection to it; among our people in America it would be regarded as a new proof of the friendship of his Highness, and everywhere in the world it would be regarded as a proof of his noble wisdom in the interests of humanity, since, without giving to the service of the Egyptian negroes in Mexico the name of "slavery," it must be admitted would not be an agreeable thing for the soldiers, as his Highness himself had told me with all possible frankness when expressing his anxiety to replace the men now in that service by others.

The substance of the preceding paragraph, and nearly in the equivalent words in French, was written and sent to the minister, you will understand, with the view of influencing his answer to the note of the 20th October. He kept my messenger waiting a short time, however, and sent back by him his formal answer to that note, a translation of which answer is hereto appended and marked A.

As this formal answer to your observations will of course attract your particular attention, I make no remark upon it.

At the same time the messenger brought back a less formal note from the minister, in which he acknowledged the receipt of my last note, saying that for the present he could only refer me to our conversation of the morning, repeating that it gave the subject a new phase, of which the Egyptian government reserved for itself the examination, and that meanwhile he hastened to send me his official answer to your observations.

I believe that I have faithfully represented these communications, but for your greater assurance I transmit herewith, marked B, C, D, and E, copies of the originals of everything that has passed in writing, beginning with my note of the 20th October, in which I endeavored to give exactly the sense of your observations, continuing with the minister's official answer, (of which the translation is the piece marked A,) and concluding with our less formal correspondence of the 16th instant, already described.

The telegraph wire between Alexandria and Malta had just broken; but the steam packet to the latter port leaves to-morrow, takes forward to Mr. Bigelow, in Paris, a telegraphic message to the effect that the Egyptian government say the insurrection is suppressed, and that the expedition of negroes may go forward. I have also written to him fully.

A French transport has arrived in the harbor of Alexandria with troops for Cochin-China, who have been disembarked and have taken the railway for Suez.

With regard to the question of the compulsory service of the soldiers in the Egyptian army, and especially that of the blacks from the upper country, I hardly know what I may say with propriety in an official communication. I have reason to believe that Mr. Outrey, the agent and consul general here of France, was annoyed at being called upon by Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys to make a report upon this subject. Even to an entirely disinterested observer it might be difficult, in a country where the civil government is absolute, to distinguish between compulsory service in the army and military service everywhere; to distinguish between a levy in the Soudan and the conscription in France. It would remain to weigh the evidence in such cases as are reported to have occurred in filling the number of the contingent at Alexandria in January, 1863. If the object desired is merely to satisfy the private judgment of a candid observer, something might be learned from the various books of modern travel in Egypt. The difficulties which embarrass the subject when approached as a matter of discussion among governments are illustrated by the fact—reported in my last despatch but one—of the frequent release of negroes from slavery in Egypt by the interposition of the good offices of the British consulates. The Egyptian government may point to these instances as so many proofs in support of the assertion proudly made in the minister's answer to your observations, "Slavery no longer exists in Egypt;" for whenever the consulates bring forward an instance of the contrary, the man is immediately freed. Others would perhaps regard these instances as disproving the proposition insisted on, or at least as illustrating that it is not of universal application.

I shall endeavor to collect the most authentic and also the most available testimony within my reach, without loss of time, but should be glad of your instructions as to the manner and degree in which it may be advisable to push inquiries.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES HALE.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *Secretary of State.*

A.

[Translation.]

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Cairo, November 16, 1865.

Monsieur l'Agent et Consul Général:

I have gladly received the despatch which you did me the honor to address me under date of the 20th October last, for the purpose of presenting in the name of your government the observations suggested to it by the expedition by his Highness of a battalion of negroes, of which the departure has been hitherto delayed by an insurrection in the Soudan, now suppressed, and who are destined to replace in Mexico those who were sent thither in 1863.

If your government had not thought proper to make any remark previously on this subject, you say this was because the government was too much occupied with internal affairs, and also because it had not then decreed the abolition of slavery. The government of his Highness, whose sympathies for that of the republic of the United States cannot be doubted for a moment, accordingly thinks it of the first importance to give explanations to the latter, which I take pleasure in believing will reassure it completely with regard to the bearing and the composition of the expedition in question. In fact, the situation of 1863 has not been modified; there has been no change to affect it. The Egyptian government, at the request of a friendly power, thought itself competent to make certain engagements in which its neutrality did not appear to be in any way compromised, and in which it was very far from thinking that it would ever incur the disapproval of the United States.

The French government, in making a request for the replacement of the contingent now in service by a new battalion, of which the composition remains exactly the same, and his Highness the viceroy, in agreeing to the request, do but obey the laws of the simplest humanity. It is three years, in fact, that these men have been living far from their country, where most of them have left their wives and children; home-sickness (*la nostalgie*) has made more gaps in their ranks than the climate or the fire of the enemy. In all countries of the world such considerations are thought worthy of regard, and the Egyptian government would have had a bad appearance not to accept their significance. Moreover, it would have been very difficult, not to say impossible, to escape the consequence of an agreement which put at the disposal of the French expedition to Mexico a certain number of men, strong and well fitted for the military service. The honor of the flag, and the respect due to its engagements, then, united in requiring that the government of his Highness should receive with favor a request which had in its eyes the advantage of restoring, not only to their native country, but to their separate homes, a certain number of these men, who were chosen originally from the soldiers of the garrisons of Cairo and Alexandria, and who had a right to their discharge by reason of the expiration of the period of service due to the state.

In the material point of view, then, we have merely to deal with a simple substitution, and there is, in truth, no reason for anxiety at a situation which remains the same that has existed for three years past.

In the moral point of view, the objection appears to me still less well founded. It is based on the fact that, at the date of the first expedition, the United States had not decreed the abolition of slavery.

Thus, in the opinion of the cabinet of Washington, the Egyptian soldiers who make part of the French expedition to Mexico are to be regarded as slaves, and their stay there as contradicting the great measure of humanity which has freed all their brethren in America.

Permit me, sir, to protest on my side against the expression of an error so

clear. Slavery no longer exists in Egypt. It was abolished there long before it was abolished in the United States by the many sacrifices and glorious efforts on the part of the defenders of the Union. The negroes in the Egyptian territory are subjects of his Highness by the same title and with the same rights as the other natives of the country. In serving under our flag they obey a law of conscription equal for all. Regulations limit the period of service due by each man to the country, and the length of this period is proportioned to the number of the population.

This is not all. In virtue of a principle made applicable as long ago as the reign of our illustrious Mehemet Ali, all slaves enrolled under the flag become free in full right.

The good conduct of some of these soldiers since they have been in Mexico has been pointed out by the general-in-chief of the expedition to the French government, which has not hesitated to award to them crosses and medals of honor; others have been proposed to the Egyptian government by the same general-in-chief for similar distinctions, and even for promotion to the grade of superior officers; and the Egyptian government has made haste to recognize their merit.

I appeal to yourself, sir, is there a country in the world where soldiers who were merely slaves would be treated with so much regard and would enjoy so much consideration?

I rely, then, with all confidence on your co-operation to make known the details, to transmit these loyal explanations to the government of the United States, and to reassure it respecting the true condition of these Egyptian negroes. I take pleasure in hoping that, better informed than before, your government will be good enough to see nothing in this expedition but the simple replacement of one battalion by another in conformity with the terms of an understanding; a replacement of which the necessity is demanded by the laws of humanity and the rules of justice; at the same time that it is imposed upon his Highness by the benevolent interest which he feels for all his subjects without distinction.

Be pleased to accept, sir, the assurance of my high consideration.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs,

CHERIF PACHA.

B.

[Translation.]

AGENCY AND CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN EGYPT,

Alexandria, October 20, 1865.

YOUR EXCELLENCY: At an audience which his Highness accorded me on the 25th of August last, he was so good as to give me some explanations about the circumstances under which the Egyptian government proposes to send nine hundred negroes to Mexico to replace the troops of the same kind which were sent there in the month of January, 1863.

Having thereupon made report to my government, without failing to set forth the noble frankness with which his Highness expressed himself in giving me on this subject all the details without reserve, I have just received instructions from my government.

I must say to you that the previous expedition in 1863, although it may have made room for many comments, was let pass by the government of the United States of America without remark, because it was at that time very much engaged with exceptionally complicated domestic affairs and with foreign difficul-

ties. But since that epoch the United States have abolished slavery. Our attention is steadily fixed on the course of events in Mexico, a subject which seriously affects the security of republican institutions on the American continent, with which we are accustomed to connect the so much desired ulterior consequences of the abolition of all compulsory servitude, civil or military, in the western hemisphere.

I am therefore ordered, Mr. Minister, to bring the affair to your attention, and to say to you that, in the opinion of my government, the repetition of an expedition of Egyptian negroes to Mexico would not be regarded with approval, nor even without profound inquietude, by the United States.

I must also inform your excellency that instructions of the same character have been sent to the diplomatic representatives of the United States at Paris and Constantinople.

I have the honor to renew to your excellency the assurance of my high consideration.

Agent and Consul General,
CHARLES HALE.

His Excellency CHERIF PACHA,
Minister of Foreign Affairs.

D.

[Translation.]

AGENCY AND CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN EGYPT,
Hotel des Ambassadeurs, Cairo, November 16, 1865.

YOUR EXCELLENCY: In submitting to you the translation, here enclosed, of a despatch from our minister at Paris, addressed to the minister of foreign affairs at Washington, you will readily understand that it is not precisely an official communication that I make to you.

I await your answer to my official note of 20th October, written under special instructions from my government; meantime I make known to you what has passed.

You will understand that I have only made mention to my government of a new expedition to replace the troops which are already in Mexico. The despatch of the 20th of September, of which our minister at Paris in the beginning of the letter here enclosed, and also at the end under No. 1, was of the same purport with that addressed at the same time to me, and which I communicated to you under date of the 20th October. I pray you especially to take note of the language of my government.

I should say to you that, whatever may be the reason, that which is necessary to tranquillize public opinion with us would be to learn that his Highness has been pleased to declare that he does not intend to renew the expedition of Egyptian soldiers to Mexico. A replacing would be considered as a renewal.

If you wish to make a reserve in respect of your rights in the manner of Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys, by saying that the expedition is not abandoned, but that in effect it will not take place in consequence of interior events in Egypt, I would be satisfied, but naturally a definitive abandonment would give us great pleasure. France, as I believe, would not make objections; with us in America it would be considered as a fresh proof of the friendship of his Highness, and by all the world it will be deemed a noble proof of his wisdom in the interests of humanity.

Provided that the service of Egyptian negroes in Mexico is not slavery, it may be admitted that it is not at all agreeable to the soldiers, as his Highness told me with all frankness possible in expressing to me his wish to change the men sent by others.

I seize this occasion to renew to you the assurance of my high consideration.

CHARLES HALE.

E.

[Translation.]

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, CABINET OF THE MINISTER,
Cairo, November 16, 1865.

Mr. CONSUL GENERAL: I have just received your despatch of the 16th, and the translation of the document therein referred to.

For the present I can only refer to our conversation of this morning in repeating that your despatch of to-day carries the question into a new phase, which the government of his Majesty reserves to itself to examine. Meanwhile I restrict myself to sending you my official answer to your esteemed despatch of 20th October last.

Please accept, Mr. Consul General, the assurance of my high consideration.

CHERIF PACHA.

Mr. HALE, *Agent and Consul General of the U. S. of America.*

No. 255.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Hale.

No. 16.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November, 27, 1865.

SIR: Your despatch of October 27, No. 44, has been received, and your proceedings in fulfilment of my instruction No. 13 are approved. We learn from Paris that the design which is referred to in that instruction concerning the deportation of Nubians in Egypt to serve under the French flag in Mexico will not at present be executed.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

CHARLES HALE, Esq., *&c., &c., Alexandria.*

No. 256.

Mr. Hale to Mr. Seward.

No. 48.] AGENCY AND CONSULATE GENERAL OF U. S. OF AMERICA,
Alexandria, Egypt, November 27, 1865.

SIR: The Ardeche, French frigate, which brought hither French soldiers for Cochin China, sailed out of the harbor on 24th instant, having taken on board, according to all observations and reports, only the French soldiers who had previously arrived from Cochin China, and had been received on board the Sevres, as mentioned in my despatch No. 44.

The French soldiers brought by the Ardeche, of which the number is stated

as one thousand and fifteen, were embarked at Suez on the 15th for their destination.

General de Marquez, accredited by Maximilian as Mexican envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Constantinople, arrived at Alexandria on the 22d instant, and proceeded to Cairo, in company with Mr. Guiseppe Gogheb, accredited in the same way as Mexican counsul general here, and also in company with Mr. De Maya, the Spanish consul general, an old personal friend.

I have not previously mentioned that, on Mr. Gogheb's hoisting his flag here, on the 2d instant, he sent to me, as well as to the other members of the consular corps, his circular, intimating the day when he would be prepared to receive his colleagues. As I had met him previously in private circles, and also officially in his capacity as consul of Persia, (which commission he still retains,) I sent him a private note to intimate that I could not salute the flag or make him an official visit, but that I hoped to maintain friendly personal relations with him, and official relations with him in his capacity as consul of Persia.

Both Mr. Gogheb and Mr. Debhane, my Brazilian colleague, are natives of the East; they are estimable gentlemen, but naturally have little acquaintance with the governments whose commissions they hold, or with the condition of political society upon the American continent.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES HALE.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

MOROCCO.

No. 257.

Mr. Perry to Mr. Seward.

[Extract.]

No. 60.] UNITED STATES CONSULATE,
Tunis, December 17, 1864.

SIR: The Bey of Camp, who is the presumptive heir to the throne of Tunis, set off from the Bardo on the 15th instant with an army of eight thousand men, composed of infantry, cavalry, and artillery. He is to collect taxes from the various tribes in the regency, extending his visit as far as the Gereed, and he is to be gone one year. Such has been the ordinary way of raising a revenue for many years past. Last spring the usual visit of the Bey's revenue agents was prevented by the rebellion.

The report of a battle between the Bey's troops and the rebels, near Kef, reached here yesterday. This difficulty occurred with the tribe that commenced the rebellion by killing several of the Bey's most important officers.

The French consul made another visit to the Bey on the 10th instant, and as he held out his hand to the Bey the latter kept his hands firm in his side-pockets, as if not seeing the consul's movement. This was probably done as a return for the consul's previous act of disrespect to the Bey. * * * *

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AMOS PERRY.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

No. 20.

TEHUANTEPEC TRANSIT COMPANY.

List of papers.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Roberts.....December 13, 1866.
Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.....December 15, 1866.
Mr. Roberts to Mr. Seward.....December 21, 1866.
Mr. Seward to Mr. Roberts.....December 26, 1866.

No. 258.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Roberts.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 13, 1866.

SIR: I enclose for your information a copy of the charter granted in October last, by the President of Mexico, to the "Tehuantepec Transit Company."

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

MARSHALL O. ROBERTS, Esq.,
No. 174 *Chambers street, New York.*

CHARTER OF THE TEHUANTEPEC TRANSIT COMPANY.

CITY OF CHIHUAHUA, *July* 17, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor, as the agent and an associate of a company recently formed in the United States of America, styled the Tehuantepec Transit Company, to solicit from the supreme constitutional government of the United Mexican States a grant and the franchises necessary for the opening, construction, and operation of a transit route by railway, and also of a telegraphic line of communication, from the Gulf of Mexico to the port of La Ventosa, on the Pacific, across the isthmus of Tehuantepec.

My authority for so doing I herewith enclose, being an ample power of attorney, duly authenticated, from my associates, to act in the premises, dated May 18, 1866.

In this same connection, I also have the honor to submit, for the consideration and approbation of your Excellency's government, the draught of a contract embodying the terms and conditions for carrying into effect the enterprises contemplated by the Tehuantepec Transit Company, which has been duly considered and adopted by my associates, and which draught, I would further state, has been laid before Mr. Romero, the minister of the Mexican republic at Washington, and has received his commendation, so far as he was entitled, consistently with his position, to sanction the same.

Your Excellency is fully aware of the importance which attaches to the early consummation of this great commercial enterprise, not only to the world at large, but to the best interests of our two republics; one which, when fully weighed and considered, under the present situation of the Mexican republic, embodies in itself, politically, deep significance to its future existence and welfare as an independent and free state.

My antecedents are well known to your Excellency. Your government has ever known me as a decided friend of your republic, and a no less firm advocate of republican institutions throughout the American continent. I come with the

determination to act *now*, as I have *hitherto* done, with entire good faith towards the Mexican republic, and trust that every facility consistent with justice and equity will be vouchsafed to me by its lawful government in the prosecution and consummation of my mission; and being desirous of soon returning to my country with renewed evidences of the amity and known good will of the Mexican republic towards the United States and its people, I have the honor to request that your Excellency will be pleased to direct the prompt consideration of the solicitation I now most respectfully present to the constitutional government of the republic.

In conclusion, permit me to say that I am prepared to confer, respecting the transaction proposed in this my formal petition, with any person or persons whom it may be your Excellency's good pleasure to appoint to that end.

I remain, with the highest respect and consideration, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

[SEAL.] HENRY R. DE LA REINTRIE,
Agent Tehuantepec Transit Company.

The Citizen DON BENITO JUAREZ,
President of the United Mexican States, Chihuahua.

[Translation.]

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, FOMENTO, AND PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, SEC. 2.

With your note of the 17th of July last was received the petition which you presented as agent and associate of a company recently formed in the United States of America, for the construction of a railroad and telegraphic line on the isthmus of Tehuantepec.

Taking the subject into consideration, the modifications and alterations which were deemed convenient have been made in the bases proposed by you; and you having signified your assent thereto, proceedings were taken immediately to pass and publish the appropriate law.

By permission of the citizen President I communicate the same to you, requesting you to be pleased to signify in reply that, as representative of the Tehuantepec Transit Company, you accept the terms in which the said law is conceived.

Independence, liberty, and reform! Chihuahua, October 15, 1866.

[SEAL.] YGLESIAS.

HENRY R. DE LA REINTRIE, Esq., *Present.*

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, FOMENTO, AND PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, SEC. 2.

The citizen President of the republic has been pleased to transmit to me the decree which follows:

Benito Juarez, constitutional President of the United Mexican States, to their inhabitants:

Know ye that, in use of the ample faculties with which I find myself invested, I have seen fit to decree the following:

ART. 1. The company formed under the name of the Tehuantepec Transit Company, having solicited that the privilege granted to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company on the 7th of September, 1857, for the opening of interoceanic communication by the isthmus of Tehuantepec, be declared lapsed and insubsistent; and taking into consideration the just motives and grounds alleged for

making the declaration solicited, because of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company having infringed the obligations imposed upon it by the decree of the 7th of September, 1857, and those of the 28th of March, 1859 and 25th of October, 1860, in which extensions of the periods fixed for commencing and finishing the railroad in question were granted; therefore, the said privilege is declared lapsed and insubsistent, and, in virtue of such lapse and insubsistency, authority is given to the Tehuantepec Transit Company for the opening of the inter-oceanic communication by that isthmus, and for the establishment of a telegraphic line on the same, the concessions which are expressed in this law being made to the said company.

ART. 2. The company becomes obliged to make the communication by water, on the river Goatzacoalcos, availing itself of its navigable part so far as, by mutual agreement, it may be deemed proper; and thence by land to the port of La Ventosa, by means of a railroad of the best class; and while this is being completed, by means of a suitable carriage road, which shall be kept in a good state of service, and with the necessary bridges for the passage of carriages which may convey passengers and mercandise of small weight.

ART. 3. Before commencing the works of the railroad and of the carriage road, the approbation of the general government shall be asked and obtained, respecting the plans and designs to be formed by the engineers of the company, with previous survey of the ground—marking out, in what relates to the railroad, its whole course, its breadth, and the system of construction.

ART. 4. The grantees shall give seasonable notice to the government when the survey of the ground over which the roads have to pass is to commence, so that it may appoint the commissioner or commissioners who shall represent it in the operations which may have to be performed, their compensation being paid by the company. For the demarcation of the vacant lands which are to be ceded to the company, experts, appointed by the government, shall intervene, their compensation also being paid by the company.

ART. 5. In the term of eighteen months, counted from the entry of the government of the republic into the city of Mexico, the explorations of the ground are to be made, the plans which mark the direction of the roads drawn up and presented and submitted to the approbation of the government, to which notice will be given within the first six months that these works are about to be proceeded with, in order that it may appoint its commissioner or commissioners in due season.

ART. 6. The company shall commence the construction of the railroad and telegraphic line within six months, counted from and after the year and a half spoken of in the preceding article, having to finish in each year, to the satisfaction of the government, a section of ten leagues, until the completion of the whole line.

ART. 7. The company shall commence the construction of the carriage road at the same time as that of the railroad, and shall finish it to the satisfaction of the government within two years, counting from the date fixed for commencing it.

ART. 8. Of the vacant lands which may exist, the government gives to the company the strip which may be needed for the line of the roads, and besides the one-half of the vacant lands which may be found within a lateral mile on each side of the railroad alone, for the whole extent through which it may run. Said vacant lands shall be divided, where their extension permits, into squares of one mile square each, and where they have less than two miles in their length along the road, or in the fractions of less than two miles, they shall be divided into halves, one belonging to the nation and the other to the company. The portions divided shall be numbered on each side, commencing on both with No. 1 on the north, and following in numerical order towards the south, so that the No. 1 of the side of the west or of the right side of the road shall remain in front of the No. 1 of the side of the east, or the left side, unless, because of the road

passing through places in which there should be vacant lands within the lateral line, on one side only there should be points of intersection with lands of private property, in which case the order expressed will become interrupted, then resuming again unto the end of the road the prescribed numeration, for the portions of lands on both sides.

ART. 9. The nation reserves to itself thenceforth, in full domain, on the western or right side of the road, all the portions designated by the odd numbers 1, 3, 5, &c., and in the same manner it reserves to itself, on the eastern or left side of the road, all the portions marked with the even numbers 2, 4, 6, &c., ceding to the grantees for the period of sixty years the usufruct of the portions designated by the even numbers on the western or right side of the road, and of the portions marked with the odd numbers on the eastern or left side. If, in case of intersection stated in the preceding article, there should be found more portions of vacant lands on the one side of the road than on the other, whatever of excess there may be on either of the two sides shall be divided into halves between the nation and the grantees, in such manner as always to observe precisely from mile to mile the two alternatives of side and front between the national portions and those of the enterprise.

ART. 10. The government grants to the company the necessary land—should there be such—for the wharves, dikes, and other indispensable works for the use of the way of communication at the ports of Goatzacoalcos and of La Ventosa, the company engaging to construct the said wharves and dikes at its own expense, to the satisfaction of the government, in the two years following the date of the completion of the railroad, and thereafter immediately to construct the works necessary for facilitating the discharge of vessels and avoiding damage to merchandise.

ART. 11. If the lands of the public domain granted to the company should not be sufficient for these purposes they may be supplied from those of private individuals, the company indemnifying the owners according to the laws.

ART. 12. The company may take gratuitously from the lands which are of the public domain, for the time they are such, and without this implying as respects the government any obligation not to alienate them in whole or in part, the materials necessary for the construction of the roads and of the telegraph, or of their appurtenances, and for their conservation. If the materials should be found on the lands of private individuals, the company may also use them, indemnifying the owners according to the laws.

ART. 13. During the time necessary for the construction of the railroad, the company may import into the isthmus, free of duties, the materials, engines, iron-work, coal, carriages, and tools necessary for the construction of the road and of its appurtenances, as well as such objects of prime necessity as may not be found on the isthmus for the maintenance and clothing which the laborers employed on the works may require. Subsequently to the term of the construction of the road, it shall have the right to import free of duties only the engines, coal, cars, and rails which it may require—this exemption lasting for the space of sixty years, and the company making use of it, as also of the foregoing one, according to regulations issued by the ministry of the treasury.

ART. 14. The company shall be under obligation to construct and maintain light-houses, of the first class, where it may be most convenient, at both ends of the way, the same to be completed within three years after the termination of the railroad.

ART. 15. It shall also be under obligation to deepen the bar of Goatzacoalcos and the channel of the river, in the places where it may be possible and convenient, according to plans which shall be approved by the ministry of fomento.

ART. 16. The company shall deposit in the hands of the minister plenipotentiary of Mexico at Washington, within ninety days, counted from and after the date of this law, and as a security of the obligations imposed on the same

company, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000) in gold, the de livery of this money being a condition indispensable for the existence and validity of the concessions made in the present decree. The company shall incur the penalty of losing the said one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000) in case it does not comply within the designated periods with the obligations to present the plans, and to commence and finish the roads and the telegraphic line. If it comply with these obligations the one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000) shall be paid to it out of the half of the first net proceeds accruing to the government.

ART. 17. The company shall have power to levy tolls, dues of transit, of wharfage, of storage, and any others whatever, for freight of goods, conveyance of passengers, and transmission of telegrams; but the tariff fixed by the company for the conjoint sum of all these dues, excepting only that of storage, shall not exceed fifty (50) cents per league for each passenger, three (3) cents per league for each arroba of goods, one (1) per cent. of the value of precious metals and jewels; this apportionment being understood for the whole transit of the road by land and by water, and of ten (10) cents for each word of the telegrams.

ART. 18. The government shall not exact, during the sixty years of the concession, any impost or contribution whatever, whether on the goods which shall pass by the isthmus in transit only, or on the passengers, or on the telegrams, or in fine on the capitals invested in the roads and telegraphic line, and in the entire undertaking. Goods consumed at points on the isthmus, or which may be exported therefrom, shall not enjoy this exemption.

ART. 19. In respect to the line of transit established between the ports of Goatzacoalcos and La Ventosa, in part by water and in part by railroad, the government binds itself not to grant to another company, during the sixty years mentioned, the concessions specified in this law; it being understood as to the collections of imposts that for no other company will there be dispensation or reduction of the payment of such duties as are made payable in conformity with the tariffs in force in the maritime custom-houses.

ART. 20. The government shall protect the prosecution, conservation, and security of the works, with all the force which it may deem suitable for a work of great and notorious public utility.

ART. 21. The government shall keep open and legalized for foreign commerce, during the sixty years of the concession, the port of Goatzacoalcos, on the Gulf of Mexico, and that of La Ventosa, on the Pacific.

ART. 22. The power granted to the company for the transportation of goods shall be regulated by the ministry of the treasury, to prevent abuses and facilitate the prompt despatch thereof, without its being understood by said power that the company has the right to open sales of goods at any point on the isthmus.

ART. 23. The concessions made in this law shall continue from and after the termination of the construction of the railroad and telegraph, for sixty years, counted from the time of their being opened for the public use; and during all this time the government shall receive fifteen per cent. of the net incomes of the road, whenever dividends are made to the shareholders; it being understood that, so soon as there shall be any income, there shall be made at least one dividend annually. At the end of these sixty years the government shall enter into full and absolute possession and ownership of the lands given in usufruct, and of the railroad, telegraph, and light-houses, with all their tools and appurtenances, in a current and perfect state of service. The trains to be delivered should be such at least as are necessary for the daily transportation of five hundred passengers and ten thousand arrobas of lading. The rails, cars, engines, and utensils shall be in a condition at least of medium use. The vessels and steamers of the company shall not be included in the delivery.

ART. 24. Besides the fifteen (15) per cent. stipulated in the foregoing article,

the company shall be under obligation to pay to the government, monthly, twelve cents for each one of the passengers or packages of merchandise which it transports by the general way.

ART. 25. The company shall be obliged to convey to any point, in the whole transit of the road, free of charges, the correspondence and printed matter which pass by it, and which the proper office may forward, receiving and delivering them with the due formalities. In the same manner it shall transport, for half the tariff, all the products and objects belonging to the government. It shall likewise convey, without any pay, the officers, troops, employés, or agents of the general government, or of the States, when travelling on public service. It shall also transmit, free of charge, by its telegraphic lines, all messages sent by functionaries or employés of the Mexican republic, or of either of the States thereof, on public business. The metals and agricultural and manufactured products of the republic shall be transported for twenty-five per cent. less than the price of the tariff, subject to regulations to be issued by the ministry of the treasury.

ART. 26. The transit, by the way of communication, shall be free for all the inhabitants of the globe; but there will be augmentation of twenty-five per cent. on the goods of nations which shall not have a treaty of neutrality with Mexico respecting the transit of the isthmus.

ART. 27. The company shall have the power to transport, by the way of communication, foreign correspondence in closed bags, which shall not be opened; and said bags shall be sealed by the administration of the mails, or of the maritime custom-houses.

ART. 28. The steamers or vessels of the company shall have the right to navigate the river Goatzacoalcos during the sixty years of the concession, doing so necessarily under the Mexican flag, and being bound to have the allotment of officers and crews which the laws require for national vessels, constituting the same of Mexicans by birth or by naturalization. For the latter case there will be given to the company the letters of naturalization which it requests.

ART. 29. The concession granted to the company in the preceding article is not to prevent other vessels and steamers from navigating the river Goatzacoalcos for commerce and any other purposes: *Provided*, That this navigation shall be regulated by the laws of the Mexican republic.

ART. 30. The company's vessels, conveying exclusively passengers, correspondence, and goods for the through transit of the way, shall be exempt from tonnage duty. If, besides, they convey goods for any point of the isthmus, they shall pay the tonnage duty as to such goods only, and not for the rest.

ART. 31. The company shall transport in its vessels, free of cost, the correspondence and printed matter which may come for any point of the republic, and those that may be sent from it to the other at which its vessels may touch, receiving and delivering the said printed matter and correspondence with the due formalities. In the same manner it shall transport, for one-half the tariff, all articles and effects the property of the government. It shall also convey, without any charge, the officers, troops, employés, and agents of the general government, or of the States, when travelling on public service. The metals or products of the agriculture or manufactures of the republic shall be transported for twenty-five per cent. less than the tariff price.

ART. 32. The company shall assume the payment of what may be legally and justly due upon the loan which Mr. Francisco P. Falconnet made to the Sloo enterprise, the government continuing free from all future responsibility respecting this loan, and without diminishing, on that account, the proportion of income which belongs to it of the products of the road.

ART. 33. The enterprise to which this law refers is, and shall always be, exclusively Mexican; and the Tehuantepec Transit Company, although constituted in the United States, will, nevertheless, be deemed as renewed and now

constituted in the Mexican republic, as though it had been formed and organized in the same conformably to the Mexican laws; but, if it should deem fit to constitute separate companies, under such rules of association as it may select, for each one or for several of the branches comprehended in the operations which it is to perform, it shall have power to constitute such companies, forming them and organizing them, either in the republic or in the United States, in conformity with the general or special laws of the place in which it may constitute them, although they are always to be considered as depending wholly of the same principal company, exclusively Mexican, and, therefore, subject to the prescriptions of this law.

ART. 34. In virtue of the provisions of the preceding article, the present company, and any other which may succeed it, as well as all foreigners, and the successors of these, who may take part in the enterprise, whether as shareholders, employés, or by any other title or character, shall be considered as Mexican in all that may relate to the said enterprise; they shall not have the power to allege, with reference to the titles connected with the enterprise, the rights of foreigners; they shall not, even alleging a denial of justice, have other rights, nor other means of enforcing them, in all that concerns the same enterprise, than those which the laws of the republic concede to Mexicans; and they shall not make available such rights except before the Mexican tribunals.

ART. 35. The restrictions of the preceding article shall not apply to the discussions or differences arising between foreign shareholders and outside of the republic, in which case they may be examined and decided as though the restrictions did not exist, but without the decisions of the foreign tribunals affecting in any manner the prescriptions of this decree, nor the Tehuantepec Transit Company, which is reputed Mexican for all the effects of this decree, nor Mexican interests.

ART. 36 The government shall name one-fourth part of the directors of the company, with the same faculties and prerogatives as the others; and shall have the right also to establish a commission on the isthmus to watch the works and labors which are undertaken.

ART. 37. The following restrictions and obligations are imposed on the company:

1. It shall construct no fortress on the isthmus.

2. It shall not organize an armed force of any kind; but the employés of the company may be armed for their personal defence.

3. It shall not give passage to any foreign armed force without the express authorization of the general government.

4. It shall not convey any effects whatever belonging to a belligerent, declared to be contraband of war by the laws of the Mexican republic, without the express authorization of the general government.

5. It shall not give passage to any armed national force, nor convey national munitions of warlike stores, without the express authorization of the general government, or of other competent authority.

6. It shall immediately discharge from its service any of its dependents engaged in or protecting smuggling, or who shall commit any offence, and shall assist the government in their prosecution.

7. It shall enforce the measures designated by the general government for the purpose of compelling all passengers to observe the revenue laws of the republic.

ART. 38. The company shall not have power to alienate or hypothecate the concessions of this law, nor the railroad, nor the telegraph, without previous consent of the general government; and in no case can it alienate or hypothecate the concessions, nor the railroad, nor the telegraph, to any foreign government—the alienation or hypothecation it may make being null and of no force. Neither shall the company admit as a partner, in any case, a foreign government

or state, any stipulation to that effect which it may make being equally null and of no force.

ART. 39. The concessions granted in the present law shall become forfeited for the following causes:

1. By not depositing in the hands of the minister plenipotentiary of Mexico in Washington, within ninety days, counted from the date of this law, the one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000) mentioned in article 16th of the same.

2. By not complying with the obligations relative to the presentation of the plans, and of the construction of the sections and of the whole road within the periods fixed for that purpose in this law.

3. By constructing any fortress on the isthmus of Tehuantepec.

4. By organizing any armed force of any kind whatever.

5. By giving passage to any foreign armed force without the express authorization of the general government.

6. By conveying, without the express authorization of the general government, such effects of any belligerent power as are declared to be contraband of war by the laws of the Mexican republic.

7. By giving passage to any national armed force, or by conveying national munitions of war and other warlike stores, without the express authorization of the general government, or of other competent authority.

8. By infringing any of the clauses of article 38 of this law, in which it is provided that the company cannot alienate nor hypothecate the concessions of the same law, nor the railroad, nor the telegraph, without the previous consent of the general government; and that in no case can it alienate or hypothecate the concessions, nor the railroad, nor the telegraph, to any foreign government; nor having power, in any case, of admitting as associate a foreign government or state.

ART. 40. In case the company should fail to comply with the other obligations and restrictions imposed upon it by this law, it shall be subject to the reparation of the fault, and to the corresponding indemnification.

ART. 41. In any of the cases specified in article 39, the company shall not only lose the concessions granted in this law, of which the government may dispose at its discretion, but all the expenses incurred and works which the same company may have made on the isthmus, which shall remain to the benefit of the nation.

ART. 42. All doubt or controversy on the interpretation or execution of this law shall be decided by the competent federal tribunals of the Mexican republic, conformably to the laws of the same.

ART. 43. The obligations contracted by the enterprise, respecting the periods fixed in this law, shall be suspended in every fortuitous case, or case of superior force, which shall directly and absolutely impede the performance of such obligations, and the suspension shall continue for the time only that the impediment continues. The company shall present to the general government the notifications and proofs of the occurrence of a fortuitous case or case of superior force, of the character mentioned, within the term of three months after the impediment has commenced; and from the fact alone of not presenting such notifications and proofs within the period designated, the company will not then be able to allege, at any time, the existence of the fortuitous case, or case of superior force. The company shall have likewise to present to the general government the notifications and proofs that the works have continued immediately after the cessation of the impediment, or at the most, within three months after its having ceased, the said presentation being made within the two months following the three months mentioned. There shall be allowed to the company only the time during which the impediment may have continued, or at the most, three months more.

Wherefore, I order that this be printed, published, circulated, and that it receive due execution.

Given at the palace of the national government, in Chihuahua, on the 15th day of October, 1866.

BENITO JUAREZ.

Citizen José M. Yglesias,
Minister of Justice, Fomento, and Public Instruction.

And I communicate it to you for your information and consequent objects. Independence, liberty, and reform! Chihuahua, October 15, 1866.

YGLESIAS.

Henry R. De la Reintrie, Esq., *Present.*

Consulate of the United States of America,
City of Chihuahua, State of Chihuahua, Republic of Mexico:

I hereby certify that José Maria Yglesias is the duly appointed and acting minister of the department of justice, fomento, and public instruction of the republic of Mexico, and that due faith and credit should be extended to all his official acts as minister aforesaid; that I am personally acquainted with said minister Yglesias, and that he to-day declared before me to be genuine his signature affixed to the preceding document.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto sign my name and affix the seal of this consulate on this the sixteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and sixty-six.

[seal.] REUBEN W. CREEL,
Consul of the United States of America.

Chihuahua, *October* 15, 1866.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of this date, transmitting an authenticated copy of the law of the 15th of October instant, which the citizen President, Don Benito Juarez, has been pleased to issue in behalf of the Tehuantepec Transit Company, and also to have published in the official journal of the constitutional government of the Mexican republic, of even date with said law.

In reply, I have the honor to inform you that, as the agent of the Tehuantepec Transit Company, I accept the grants made to said company for the construction of a railroad and telegraph across the isthmus of Tehuantepec in the terms expressed in said law.

I am, sir, with great respect, your very obedient servant,

H. R. DE LA REINTRIE, *Agent.*

Señor Don J. M. Yglesias,
Minister of Fomento, &c., Chihuahua.

[Translation.]

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, FOMENTO, AND PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

In order that the Tehuantepec Transit Company, which you represent, may enter at once on the preliminary works of the enterprise to which the law passed this day refers, the citizen President has been pleased to permit that authority shall be given to said company for the above-mentioned object, as is done by means of this order, the presentation of which will suffice to the end that the authorities and functionaries to whom it belongs to give it effect shall

do the same immediately, imparting to the agents and employés of the company all the protection which may be necessary for the performance of their duties.

I communicate this to you for the consequent objects

Independence, liberty, and reform! Chihuahua, October 15, 1866.

[SEAL.] YGLESIAS.

HENRY R. DE LA REINTRIE, Esq., *Present.*

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

City of Chihuahua, State of Chihuahua, Republic of Mexico:

I hereby certify that José Maria Yglesias is the duly appointed and acting minister of the department of justice, fomento, and public instruction of the republic of Mexico, and that due faith and credit should be extended to all his official acts as minister aforesaid; that I am personally acquainted with said minister, Yglesias, and that he to-day declared before me to be genuine his signature affixed to the preceding document.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto sign my name and affix the seal of this consulate on this the sixteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and sixty-six.

[SEAL.] REUBEN W. CREEL,

Consul of the United States of America.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *November* 28, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to report my return to this city, and to inform you that, pursuant to my instructions, I have obtained from Don Benito Juarez, President of the United Mexican States, a grant, made on the 15th day of October last, to the Tehuantepec Transit Company for the construction of a railroad and telegraphic line over the isthmus of Tehuantepec. Enclosed herewith you will please find a copy of the original law on the subject, duly authenticated, and also a printed copy thereof, published at the seat of the government, Chihuahua, in the official organ of the Mexican government. Also, the order of the Mexican government for commencing the survey of the route, dated October 15, 1866.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. DE LA REINTRIE,

Agent of the Tehuantepec Transit Company.

CHARLES KNAP, Esq.,

President of the Tehuantepec Transit Company, Washington.

WASHINGTON, *November* 28, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor, as president of the Tehuantepec Transit Company, to inform you that at a meeting of the said company held this day it was determined to ratify the action of their agent, Mr. H. R. De la Reintrie, and that the company hereby accept the grants made to them on the 15th day of October last by President Benito Juarez; and also that the proper measures will be adopted to comply with the obligations enjoined upon the company in the said law.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES KNAP,

President of the Tehuantepec Transit Company.

H. R. DE LA REINTRIE, *Secretary.*

Señor MATIAS ROMERO, *&c., &c., &c., Washington, D. C.*

No. 258.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.

No. 9.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 15, 1866.

SIR: I send you herewith a copy of a communication which I addressed on the 7th instant to Mr. Marshall O. Roberts, of New York, in reply to one from him of the 27th ultimo, regarding the late charter which President Juarez granted to the Tehuantepec Transit Company, in derogation of a previous grant to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, which, it is claimed, has still its legal force. You will observe that the department declined to protest against this later grant, because it had not such evidence of the illegality of that grant as would warrant the interference by our government. The subject, however, is one of importance, involving, as it does, the interests of several of our citizens. You are therefore instructed to bring the matter before the government of Mexico, asking of it such explanations as will give us a proper understanding of the subject.

I enclose, for your future information, a copy of the last charter, which is dated October 15, 1866.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL, Esq., *&c., &c., &c.*

[Enclosure.]

Mr. Seward to Mr. Marshall O. Roberts.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 7, 1866.

SIR: On the 28th of May last you addressed to me a letter in which you informed me that you had become the purchaser of the stock of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, and thereby the owner of a grant which you represented to have been made by the government of Mexico for the construction of a railroad across the isthmus of Tehuantepec in that country. You informed me that this grant, which originally was limited to a shorter period, was extended from time to time, and finally, by a decree of the Mexican government, dated October 8, 1860, seven years from April, 1862, were allowed to the company for the completion of the road, with the proviso, that during civil war the time should not be counted against the grantees. You assumed that it was well known to me that it had been for many years the cherished plan of the American government to establish a transit across Tehuantepec; and you informed me that a very great sum was offered by President Polk to the Mexican government for the privilege which belongs to the company which you now represent. You informed me further, that various difficulties, financial and political, had disappointed the expectations and wishes of our people, and that very large investments of capital had been sacrificed in the efforts to open the route. You then informed me, that you were prepared, notwithstanding former failures, to attempt the construction of a road, and to establish a steamer and railroad line between New York and San Francisco, provided the government of the United States was able and willing to protect you in the execution of the work, and to enforce the rights which, as an American citizen, you had acquired. You further informed me, that you desired to establish the company in the State of New York, and to give it the name of the New York,

Tehuantepec, and Pacific Railroad and Steamship Company; and you requested the aid of the Department of State in procuring the permission of the Mexican government to make that proposed alteration. On the 29th day of May, 1866, I acknowledged by mail the receipt of the aforesaid letter, and stated that I should be pleased if you could make it convenient to call upon me here, with a view to conversation upon the subject of your letter. I have the remembrance of the visit which you made me, during the spring or early part of summer; but my memory does not serve me upon the points, whether that visit occurred before or after the dates of the correspondence before mentioned, and whether in the conversation my attention was at all directed to the subject thereof.

On the 17th of September, 1866, I received a letter from Mr. L. E. Hargous, of New York, which was written on the 14th of that month, in which he informed me that you had obtained through him the transfer of all the rights of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, for the purpose of building a railroad across the isthmus of Tehuantepec. To show to the government the title to the grant, under which such transfer was made, he enclosed me a copy of a decree "from the Mexican government to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, duly certified by the Mexican consul general, with the translation of the same appended;" "which decree," said Mr. Hargous, "extends the time for the construction of the railroad." Mr. Hargous closed his letter by saying that, in view of the unsettled condition of affairs in Mexico, he ventured to ask the protection of this government, which such a great project requires, to insure its success; and also that the rights which he had set forth might be protected through any treaty that might thereafter be made by this government.

On the 29th of September last, I received from Mr. L. E. Hargous a letter, which was written on the 26th of that month. In that letter the writer informed me that his brother, P. A. Hargous, became in possession of the Mexican grant for a railroad across the isthmus of Tehuantepec, in the year 1849. That in 1851 he caused the route to be thoroughly surveyed; in 1857 he ceded his rights to a company in New Orleans, which he said was incorporated by legislative authority, and called the "Louisiana Tehuantepec Company," to construct a railroad. That he despatched a bark for the purpose, in 1858, from New York, with 200 laborers, provisions, wagons, and implements, which vessel safely arrived, and the laborers entered on the business of opening the route. Mr. Hargous further stated that soon afterward the steamer Quaker City was purchased, and towards the end of October was sent to New Orleans, and that an iron steamer was built in New York, and in the fall of the same year was despatched to Minatitlan to be employed in carrying passengers and freight up the river Goatzacoalcos to Suchil. Mr. Hargous further stated that contracts were made for forty passenger coaches, which coaches, with several hundred sets of harness, extra wheels, poles, &c., were sent to the isthmus. Mr. Hargous further stated that at a subsequent date two large steamers, the Goatzacoalcos and the Mississippi, were purchased for the use of the company; that the plan was, in the first instance, to open communication by coaches, and in the mean time to build a railroad. That the road was opened for coaches in the early part of November, 1858, when the steamer Quaker City commenced running between New Orleans and Minatitlan, and continued in business for several months, carrying passengers and the United States mail to San Francisco, via Potosi, on the Pacific. Mr. Hargous further stated that the route was approved by the passengers, and that there was every prospect that the railroad, on completion, would command a large portion of the travel to and from San Francisco. Mr. Hargous further informed me that, during the progress of the affair, the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company from time to time obtained the acceptances of the said P. A. Hargous and his firm, of which the said L. E. Hargous was a member, for their accommodation, to a large amount. He further informed me that in May, 1859, the remittances of the company were totally inadequate to cover those acceptances, and the con-

sequence was disastrous to the said P. A. Hargous and to L. E. Hargous; that the said P. A. Hargous had ever taken a profound interest in the enterprise of Tehuantepec, and was not insensible to the honor which would result from being identified with a work so conducive to the welfare of his country. Mr. L. E. Hargous further informed me in this aforesaid letter, that in the administration of President Polk, Mr. Trist was authorized to offer *fifteen million dollars* for the right of way across the isthmus. Mr. L. E. Hargous further stated in that letter, that on the 22d of March, 1866, he effected an arrangement with you, and which arrangement procured for you a legal assignment of all the rights of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, which consist of grants, concessions, and amendments made by the republic of Mexico to said company by decrees, dated respectively September 7, 1857, March 28, 1859, and October 25, 1860. He further stated that, by the terms of the latter decree, seven years were granted to the company, from April 1, 1862, in which it might commence and complete the railroad, and also providing that no part of said period should count during which the work might be suspended by the existence of civil war, or any other controlling cause. Mr. Hargous then proceeded to observe that it was well known that civil war had existed ever since the promulgation of that latter decree; that the territory of Mexico was invaded by the Spanish forces in 1860, and shortly afterwards was invaded by the French and English, and that New Orleans, where the company was located, was blockaded in April of the same year, in accordance with the proclamation of the President of the United States; that the isthmus had been alternately occupied by the French and liberals; all which circumstances, he argued, were controlling causes as defined in the said decree. He further stated that Mr. R. Olarte, an agent of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, addressed a communication to the Mexican government in March, 1862, notifying it that, in consideration of the facts above related, it was materially impossible for the company to comply with what was prescribed in the decree of the 25th October, 1860. Mr. Hargous proceeded further to observe, that it was now about seventeen years since the Tehuantepec project had been made known to the world by the efforts of his brother, P. A. Hargous, and himself, both of whom were born in Philadelphia, who are merchants of forty years' standing, and during thirty of those years in New York; that, as these transactions have brought ruin upon them, he considered that such a disaster in such a worthy cause should appeal with success to the sympathies of this government. He therefore begged again to ask the protection which such a great project requires, and especially so now; that he had made arrangements with Mr. Marshall O. Roberts to carry it out, thus enabling him (Mr. Hargous) to entertain hopes of being compensated for so many years' toil and trouble, and of being also re-imbursed for the outlay of so many millions.

On the 3d day of October last I addressed Mr. L. E. Hargous a letter in which I acknowledged the receipt of his communication of the 26th of September. In that reply I informed Mr. Hargous that his letter did not show clearly what protection was specially asked by him from the government of the United States, and that the Department of State was not aware of any existing law of the United States which would authorize the President, without a special provision by Congress to that effect, to engage to furnish men or money for the protection of such an enterprise. That the acts done by him in the past, as well as the acts which may be lawfully done by Mr. Roberts in future, under the assumed contracts, are clearly questions of Mexican, or at most of international, law, which the President had neither the right nor the authority to decide upon speculatively.

On the 22d of October I received from Mr. L. E. Hargous a letter which bore date the 18th of that month, and which purported to be a reply to my communication to him of the 3d of October. Mr. Hargous, in his said letter of the 18th of October, wrote that the protection asked in his letters of the 14th and 26th

ultimo, from the government of the United States, in regard to the project of Tehuantepec, is, that in the prosecution of the works intended on the isthmus, the rights obtained through him, by you, from the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company should not be permitted to be infringed or thwarted by any acts of the contending parties in Mexico, or their agents. Mr. Hargous added: "With this assurance of protection, Mr. Roberts would, no doubt, commence forming the company with the view of prosecuting the work on the isthmus at once." Mr. Hargous added that he thought that such a great project requires, if not the aid of the government, at least its protection in the sense above mentioned, or in any other that it may deem best. Mr. Hargous closed by quoting the words of a distinguished ex-senator, that "the government of the United States stands committed to all of its citizens to protect them in their rights abroad, as well as at home;" and he yet hoped that the rights acquired by Mr. Roberts, and so conducive to the welfare of the United States, would receive due consideration.

On the 22d of October I addressed a reply to Mr. Hargous, in which I acknowledged the receipt of his letter of the 18th, and I stated to him that without a special act of Congress conferring authority for that purpose, the executive government of the United States has no right to inquire into conflicting claims, or into the legality of contracts between the citizens of the United States and the Mexican government. That a similar authority would be necessary to carry into effect any decision which might be the result of the inquiry referred to.

On the 27th of November I received a letter from Mr. Hargous, written on the 26th of that month, in which he stated that he begged leave to call the attention of the United States government to the fact, that under the decrees of the Mexican government of September, 1857, March 28, 1859, and October 25, 1860, the said company and its assigns claim and are entitled to the exclusive privilege of opening interoceanic communication across the isthmus of Tehuantepec. Mr. Hargous stated further that it has lately come to his knowledge that President Juarez has declared the rights and privileges granted to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company null and void, and has given a new grant to other parties; that he (Hargous) therefore, in the name of his company, protests to the government of the United States against the attempted violation of the contract of Mexico with the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company by President Juarez, "who," Mr. Hargous says, "thus illegally and unjustly endeavors to despoil that company of their rights," and to revoke deliberately the title given through him by the Mexican government. And Mr. Hargous appeals to the United States government for that protection from the United States in the matter which is due by it to its citizens. Mr. Hargous further proceeded to say that the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company is an American company—is composed of American citizens; and the assignees of its privileges are also American citizens; that in this very Tehuantepec matter those citizens have had to call upon our government for this protection, which has not been refused them; and he hopes the government will see full justice done in this similar case. Mr. Hargous further stated in his letter, that President Fillmore, in March, 1852, wrote to President Arista a letter, an extract of which is given by Mr. Hargous from Senate document 9738, budget 197; and Mr. Hargous states that Daniel Webster, then Secretary of State, wrote, on the 30th of June, 1852, to Señor Larainzar. Mr. Hargous also gave me an extract from a letter which he said was written by Mr. Letcher, United States minister, to Mr. Ramirez; in all of which papers the rights of the said Louisiana Tehuantepec Company were insisted upon by this government. Mr. Hargous concluded his letter by saying that the government is acquainted with the history of the case, and the condition of the country, and the facts and titles upon which they rely for the justice of their claim. That if this illegal edict despoiling them of their rights, against which they now protest, is attempted to be enforced, they call upon the government in advance for protection.

On the 30th of November I acknowledged the receipt of Mr. Hargous's last before-mentioned communication.

On the 30th of November a letter was received from yourself, which bears date New York the 27th of that month. In this last letter of yours you state that on the 28th of May last you addressed a communication to this department, informing it that you had then become possessed of the grant made by the republic of Mexico to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, and that you then requested the co-operation of the Department of State in procuring some modification thereof; that you have received no answer to that communication; and that you now begged to recall it to my attention. In your letter of the 27th of November you continue to observe that, so far as you are concerned, the situation remains as it was when you wrote on the 28th of May, but that events have occurred in Mexico to require a renewed statement of the case. You then state that you are informed that the President of the republic of Mexico, Benito Juarez, has attempted to divest you and your associates of the routes granted to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company in the decree of the government of Mexico, dated September 27, 1857, confirmed by a further decree March 28, 1859, and still further confirmed and modified by a decree of President Juarez, dated October 25, 1860. You further stated in your last-mentioned letter that the act by which the attempt of the said President Juarez thus described is made, is said to be a grant by him of the same privileges which were conferred upon you by the decree above mentioned, and some other persons claiming to be citizens of the United States; and that you are further informed that a person procuring this decree did so with the intimation that it would be beneficial to the interests of the people of the United States and the interests of the said President of Mexico, Benito Juarez; that upon the faith of the title which you now control, large sums of money have been expended by American citizens in their efforts to open this road, and they cannot lawfully be despoiled by an executive decree. You add that it is claimed that, if there has been a forfeiture, that question must be decided according to law, and cannot be judged by the President of Mexico to the prejudice of those whose interests are to be affected by the decision. You further say that, upon the faith of the title that you now represent, an association of the most able and enterprising of the citizens of the United States has been made for the purpose of constructing a road on the isthmus of Tehuantepec; and that they have already expended money, and are prepared to spend all that is necessary, to accomplish the object; but that they must rely upon their own government to protect them from spoliation; and they have a right to that protection. You proceed to observe that the work is one of great national importance; that it is the only highway connecting our western with our eastern States which can be guarded in case of foreign war from interruption; and that it is of the greatest consequence that it should be constructed and placed under the protection of this government. But, you observe, it is obvious that it can never be built if the executive of Mexico is allowed, whenever tempted by the offer of money or otherwise, to annul the title and make a new grant, and that it is equally obvious that American citizens can have no protection except from their own government. You further remark that the title to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company seems to be so plain that no plausible pretext for an act of spoliation can be suggested. That on the 28th of October, 1860, President Juarez extended the time for building the railroad to seven years from April 1, 1862, with the following proviso: "No recounting will be had as a part of the said period of seven years of the time that the work of construction of said railroad may be suspended by the operation of war, or other controlling cause, the same being duly authenticated." You then proceed to state that, in 1861, Mexico was invaded by foreign armies, and from that time to the present a state of civil war has existed in that country; that it was impossible to construct this road during that period, unless it was

done under the auspices and protection of foreign arms, hostile to the republic of Mexico, usurping its government; and this proposition you say is not disputed. You proceed to add that the contingency provided for by the contract has occurred, so that there is not only a legal excuse, but an excuse so sufficient that to disregard it would be to decide that an American company should have waged war for the period in which to exercise the franchise. You argue further that, as American citizens, the owners of the franchise are entitled to the protective co-operation of their government in asserting their rights; that in the circumstances of the case their claim is peculiarly urgent with the United States, because of the great national importance of the work to be done and the certainty that it will be done if protected; and the situation of the Mexican government is such that a wish now expressed by the government of the United States would serve the purpose of securing those rights, to protect which might, under other circumstances, be enforced.

You conclude by observing that the parties interested are ready to proceed; that their engineer is in Mexico awaiting orders; that they have already laid out money on the work, and are deterred only by the unlawful interference which you have described. You, therefore, ask my immediate attention, and you think that the occasion is one which justifies you in urging your claim, and requires the State Department to listen with favor.

I have submitted the correspondence herein recited to the consideration of the President of the United States. It is not without surprise that I read in your last-mentioned letter the statement that no reply was received by you to your letter of the 28th of May.

I have to make the following observations:

First. In regard to the subjects mentioned in this correspondence, I think it proper to say that this department has received no information whatever during its superintendence by the present Secretary of State except what has been furnished by your own letters, and those of Mr. L. E. Hargous, which are herein before recited.

Secondly. The correspondence began with an application on your part to this department to aid you in obtaining a modification of a decree, or decrees, of the Mexican republic in regard to the grant thereby made. The modification which you proposed was one which would permit the removal of the seat of business of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company from New Orleans to New York, and to give it the name of the New York, Tehuantepec and Pacific Railroad and Steamship Company. It seemed to the department, under the circumstances, as unnecessary as it would have been foreign from its accustomed manner of proceeding in foreign intercourse, to address the government of Mexico on that subject. It did not escape my attention that the proceeding proposed might require not only the consent of Mexico, but also that of the legislatures of New York and Louisiana. When Mr. Hargous entered the correspondence he invoked in very indefinite terms guarantees that this government would afford armed or military intervention in Mexico to protect and maintain the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company in operations of labor to be thereafter instituted and conducted on the isthmus of Tehuantepec, but which operations, it is understood, have not even yet begun. After obtaining from him a definition of the form of protection which he thus asked, the department answered his application by giving him the only answer that the laws of the United States, as understood by this department, allowed it to make.

Thirdly. The correspondence on your part and that of Mr. Hargous closes with the statement upon information, that the President of Mexico has recently attempted to violate the rights of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company by revoking former decrees and making new concession of the right to construct a railroad across the isthmus of Tehuantepec to some new party. You protest against that alleged violation of your rights, and appeal to this government for

its interference. Among the grounds upon which that appeal rests is your statement, before recited, that the person who procured this last-mentioned decree, in violation of the rights of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, effected that purpose by representing to the government of Mexico that the new decree which he proposed would be acceptable to the government of the United States and beneficial to the government of Mexico, represented by President Jaurez. You are now distinctly informed not only that this government has no knowledge that such a decree as you protest against has been made, but that it has no knowledge or information of the manner in which, or of the person by whom, it was procured to be made, and that no person has communicated on behalf of this government with President Juarez, or any other agent of the Mexican government, in any way whatever, or has been authorized to hold communication with it in regard to the matter concerned.

Fourthly. This department might perhaps adopt, if it had legal authority, the opinion in regard to that subject which you have expressed, viz: that the title of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, which you represent, is valid, and this department, in the absence of information to the contrary, might cherfully assume that the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company cannot be lawfully despoiled of their rights by an executive decree. The department might also adopt the further opinion which you have expressed on the subject in that connection, namely, that if it is claimed that there has been a forfeiture by the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, that question must be decided according to law, and that it cannot be judged by the President of Mexico to the prejudice of those whose interests are to be affected by the decision. On the other hand, I have to observe that it is with the government of Mexico, and not the government of the United States, that the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company have contracted; that it must rest, at least in the first instance, with the courts of Mexico, and certainly not with the executive department of the United States, to decide the questions of law and of fact which you have thus raised, without any lawful authority conferred by Congress. It does not appear that you have taken care to protest to the government of Mexico against the proceedings of which you complain, or even to inquire concerning the truth of the matters alleged against it, but I am led to infer that you expect this department to enter a protest in your behalf. Such a mode of proceeding, however, could not be adopted upon any conceivable ground, except an assumption by this department, without any authority of law, to pronounce and decide upon the validity and continuance of the title of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company—a question which, as I have intimated, belongs to judicial authorities in Mexico, and not to any executive authority residing in the United States.

I close by remarking, that the President appreciates the proposed improvement in the construction of an interoceanic railroad across the isthmus of Tehuantepec as one of very great importance, not only to Mexico, but to the United States and to the world. He would rejoice to see that improvement consummated by the talents and capital of the citizens of the United States, and while he does not doubt that such a consummation would well reward the efforts by which it should be effected, he thinks, nevertheless, that those who undertake and effect it will deserve the praise and gratitude of our country. The President, further, is quite willing to believe all the pretensions and claims which you have submitted to him in behalf of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company. But he has, at the same time, no authentic information of any just grounds for doubting the wisdom, the honesty or the good faith of the government of Mexico in the premises.

Under the belief that that government will give due consideration to whatever you have urged in vindication of the rights with which you are invested, a copy of this communication will be furnished to the minister of the United States in Mexico, and he will be instructed to submit the same to the attention

of the government of that republic, to the end that it may render such explanations upon the subject as it may think proper.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

MARSHALL O. ROBERTS, Esq.,
No. 174 *Chambers street, New York.*

No. 259.

Mr. Roberts to Mr. Seward.

174 CHAMBERS STREET, NEW YORK, *December* 21, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 8th instant, containing a summary of the correspondence between the Department of State and Mr. Hargous and myself in regard to the rights of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company to construct a railroad across the isthmus of Tehuantepec and the alleged violation of those rights by the President of the republic of Mexico, and a statement of the views of the President in regard to the duty and power of the executive department of the government of the United States in the premises.

I infer from your letter that, in your opinion, the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, the stock of which is now owned by me, has no redress except in the courts of Mexico for a violation of their rights by the President of Mexico, and that the company ought first to protest to the President of Mexico against the acts of which it complains. And I am assured that the President "is quite willing to believe all the pretensions and claims" set up in the correspondence by the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, but that he has "no authentic information of any just ground for doubting the wisdom, the honesty, or the good faith of the government of Mexico in the premises."

In regard to the first point I desire to call your attention to the article thirty-five of the grant of the President of Mexico to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, which is in these words: "In case there should be any doubt or difference in the execution or interpretation of this privilege it shall be decided by arbitrators and amicable compounders, one named by the government and the other by the company, who, before beginning the examination, shall name a third, in case of a disagreement. Against the decree of these arbitrators and the umpire there shall be no appeal nor recourse whatever." By the terms of this agreement our rights are removed from the jurisdiction of the courts, and a special tribunal is appointed for their decision. We do not therefore, I submit, stand in the same situation as citizens of Mexico, or as supposed by you in your letter.

No court of law in Mexico has jurisdiction over the President of Mexico, who exercises, as it appears, both legislative and executive powers; and unless the government of the United States will insist upon the performance of this agreement, by the appointment of the arbitrators, in case it is claimed that the company has not complied, we must be remediless.

In respect to a protest to be laid before President Juarez, I would remark that it is not practicable to reach that official person, and I submit that, under the unfortunate circumstances which surround the President of Mexico, no complaint ought to be made of citizens of the United States who are unable to lay their petitions before him.

I am unable to afford the President any more authentic information of any just grounds "for doubting the wisdom, the honesty, or the good faith of the government of Mexico in the premises," than is contained in the copy of a charter granted in October last by the President of Mexico to the Tehuantepec

Transit Company, enclosed by you to me on the 13th instant, as you say, for my information.

I assume that the decree contained in that charter was really issued; and I appeal to that paper as conclusive proof of the bad faith of President Juarez. The first article of that decree sets forth that "the Tehuantepec Transit Company, having solicited that the privilege granted to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company be declared lapsed and insubsistent, and taking into consideration the just motives and grounds alleged for making the declaration solicited, because of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company having infringed the obligations imposed upon it by the decree, &c., therefore the said privilege is declared lapsed and insubsistent." Here is a decision by one of the parties that the contract has been broken by the other party, and a proceeding to confiscate the property of that party is instituted. By the terms of the contract itself, any question affecting the execution or interpretation of "this privilege" shall be decided by arbitration. Therefore it is evident, upon inspection of the two documents, that there has been a violation of the first contract by the granting of a second decree; and I submit to the consideration of the government of the United States whether it should support, by its moral aid or otherwise, the pretensions of the acting President of Mexico to the control of that government, while at the same time he is committing these acts of bad faith towards our citizens.

I trust, therefore, that the President will reconsider his views of the matter, and see the expediency of aiding the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, at least so far as to enable it to have a decision of its rights by the only tribunal which, by the decree under which it claims, is competent to decide them.

I am, sir, with respect, your obedient servant,

MARSHALL O. ROBERTS.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State of the United States.

No. 261.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Roberts.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 26, 1866.

SIR: The letter which you addressed to me on the 21st of December, 1866, in reply to my communication of the 8th instant, has been received.

The suggestion which you make of a withdrawal by this government of its recognition of the administration of President Juarez in the republic of Mexico, upon the ground that he is committing acts of bad faith toward citizens of the United States, has been submitted, with the reasons you assign for that course, to the consideration of the President.

Without further discussion of the question of legal right, the President does not deem it necessary or expedient at the present time to intervene in matters of civil contract between citizens of the United States arising in Mexico, or in matters of contract between citizens of the United States and the government of Mexico.

A copy of your communication will be furnished to Mr. Campbell, with a view, if opportunity offer, that he may lay the same before the President of Mexico for his information.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

MARSHALL O. ROBERTS, Esq.,
174 *Chambers street, New York.*

No. 21.

SUPPLEMENT No. 1.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, COMMUNICATING, IN COMPLIANCE WITH A RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE OF THE SIXTH OF FEBRUARY, 1867, CORRESPONDENCE ON THE SUBJECT OF GRANTS TO AMERICAN CITIZENS FOR RAILROAD AND TELEGRAPH LINES ACROSS THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO.

To the Senate of the United States:

In compliance with the resolution of the Senate of the 6th of February, 1867, requesting me to transmit copies of all correspondence not heretofore communicated on the subject of grants to American citizens for railroad and telegraph lines across the territory of the republic of Mexico, I submit herewith the report of the Secretary of State and the papers accompanying it.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

WASHINGTON, *February* 11, 1867.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, February 11, 1867.

The Secretary of State, to whom was referred the resolution of the Senate of the 6th instant, requesting the President to communicate to that body, "if not deemed incompatible with the public interests, copies of all correspondence not heretofore communicated with reference to grants to American citizens for railroad and telegraph lines across the territory of the republic of Mexico," has the honor to transmit the papers mentioned in the annexed list.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

The PRESIDENT.

List of papers.

No. 1. Mr. Knap to Mr. Seward.....Feb. 2, 1867.
No. 2. Decree of President Juarez.....Oct. 25, 1860.
No. 3. Mr. La Sère to President Juarez.....Oct. 18, 1865.
No. 4. President to Mr. Emile La Sère.....Mar. 26, 1866.
No. 5. Decree of congress of Mexico.....Dec. 13, 1862.
No. 6. Decree of Maximilian.....Oct. 12, 1866.
No. 7. Mr. Knap to Mr. De la Reintrie.....May 15, 1866.
No. 8. Mr. De la Reintrie to President Juarez.....May 16, 1866.
No. 9. President Juarez to Mr. De la Reintrie.....June 22, 1866.
No. 10. Charter of the Tehuantepec Transit Company.....Oct. 15, 1866.
No. 11. Mr. Knap to Mr. Cushing.....Nov. 28, 1866.
No. 12. Mr. Cushing to Mr. Knap.....Nov. 30, 1866.
No. 13. Mr. Cushing's second opinion.....Dec. 27, 1866.
No. 14. Opinion of Hon. Reverdy Johnson.....Dec. 28, 1866.
No. 15. Supplement to Mr. Cushing's opinion.....Jan. 17, 1867.

No. 1.

Mr. Knap to Mr. Seward.

OFFICE OF THE TEHUANTEPEC TRANSIT COMPANY,
No. 274 F street, Washington, February 2, 1867.

SIR: Sundry publications having appeared in public journals with the view of impugning the legality of the concession made on the 15th day of October,

1866, by President Juarez, to the "Tehuantepec Transit Company," for the construction of a railroad and telegraph across the isthmus of Tehuantepec, a copy of which was communicated to you on the 8th day of December last, and intimations have come to the knowledge of said company that representations having been made to you, and likewise circulated in other quarters, reflecting upon the proceedings of this company and its officers in obtaining the grant in question, I deem it proper to communicate, in addition to the *charter* itself, copies of the following papers, from which it will clearly appear that all the proper and necessary steps were adopted by the company I have the honor to represent for obtaining in a lawful and honorable manner the grant and franchises now made the subject of a controversy unnecessary in itself, and certainly not invited by the "Tehuantepec Transit Company:"

No. 1. Decree of President Juarez.....Oct. 25, 1860.
No. 2. Mr. La Sère to President Juarez.....Oct. 18, 1865.
No. 3. Reply of President Juarez.....Mar. 26, 1866.
No. 4. Decree of Mexican congress.....Dec. 13, 1262.
No. 5. Decree of Maximilian.....Oct. 12, 1866.
No. 6. Mr. Knap to Mr. La Reintrie.....May 15, 1866.
No. 7. Mr. La Reintrie to President Juarez.....May 16, 1866.
No. 8. Reply of President Juarez.....June 22, 1866.
No. 9. Charter of "Tehuantepec Transit Company".....Oct. 15, 1866.
No. 10. Opinion of Mr. Cushing.....Nov. 30, 1866.
No. 11. Opinion of Mr. Cushing.....Dec. 27, 1866.
No. 12. Opinion of Mr. Johnson.....Dec. 28, 1866.
No. 13. Supplement to Mr. Cushing's opinions.....Jan. 17, 1867.

A careful review of the foregoing documents will clearly demonstrate to any unprejudiced and disinterested party that the privilege extended October 25, 1860, to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, had lapsed before any formal application (July 17, 1866) had been made to the lawful President of the United Mexican States by the "Tehuantepec Transit Company," and that the "Louisiana Tehuantepec Company" has, of its own volition, outlawed itself by applying for and accepting the extension made to it by the usurper Maximilian, dated October 12, 1866.

Some time prior to the issue of the concession to the "Tehuantepec Transit Company" it became known to the government of President Juarez, then at Chihuahua, by means of publications in the journals of the city of Mexico, and otherwise, that there was an agent of the "Louisiana Tehuantepec Company" in that city, Mr. J. P. O. Sullivan, soliciting from Maximilian an act in favor of the latter company. The above-mentioned decree of October 12, 1866, appears to be the result of the applications of that agent to Maximilian.

I particularly invite your attention to the reply of President Juarez to Mr. La Sère, of March 26, 1866, (doc. No. 3,) and to the supplemental opinion of Mr. Cushing, the counsel of this company, of January 17, 1867, (doc. No. 13,) which, in my opinion, finally and conclusively dispose of the question.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

I am, sir, your very obedient servant,

CHARLES KNAP,
President of the Tehuantepec Transit Company.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

No. 2.

Decree of President Juarez.

DECREE OF OCTOBER 25, 1860.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FOMENTO COLONIZATION, INDUSTRY, AND COMMERCE.

His excellency the constitutional president *ad interim* of the republic has been pleased to address to me the following decree:

The citizen Benito Juarez, the constitutional President *ad interim* of the United Mexican States, to all its inhabitants:

Know ye, that in the exercise of the powers with which I am invested, I have deemed it proper to decree the following:

ARTICLE 1. The time conceded by article 1st of the decree of the 28th of March, 1859, to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company is extended, so that it may commence to construct the railroad on the 1st day of April, 1862, with the obligation of finishing it in seven years, counted from the same day.

ART. 2. The time during which the labors of the construction of the said railroad may be suspended may not be counted in the said extension of seven years, and this extension may be amplified if the suspension should depend upon civil war or other causes of major force, legally proven.

Therefore, I order that this be printed, circulated, and that the due compliance be given to it.

Given at the palace of the national government, at the heroic city of Vera Cruz, on the twenty-fifth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and sixty.

BENITO JUAREZ.

The Citizen JOSÉ DE EMPÁRAN,
Minister of Fomento.

And I communicate it to you for your information, and the consequent ends. God and liberty! Heroic Vera Cruz, October 25, 1860.

EMPÁRAN.

A correct translation:

H. R. DE LA REINTRIE.

No. 3.

Mr. La Sère to President Juarez.

[Translation.]

HAVANA, *October* 18, 1865.

MY ESTEEMED AND DISTINGUISHED FRIEND: This letter is addressed to your excellency to inform you that I came to this city and am at your orders from the very moment that misfortune and adversity seized upon my country, but I have not on that account ceased to take the greatest interest in the Tehuantepec project, which I have the pleasure to inform your excellency will not be long in being carried to a good result. As I believe from what they write to me, that the works will begin very soon, I will thank your excellency to be pleased to order that there be sent to me, through M. L. E. Hargous, of New York, an order to the authorities on the isthmus of Tehuantepec to protect the persons who may present themselves for that purpose in the name of the Lou-

isiana Tehuantepec Company, and agreeably to the decrees of the government upon that subject.

I request your excellency to be pleased to order that this order be sent to me in duplicate, and with the least possible delay. As your excellency must suppose, the Tehuantepec project has not been carried into effect before in view of the occurrences in Mexico.

I have seen by the papers the hardships which your excellency has been obliged to undergo, but from what I see and from what intelligent persons tell me I believe that in the end your cause will triumph. May God so will it. Your excellency will be pleased to excuse the trouble which I give you in the midst of so many toils which surround you, and command whatever your excellency may desire from your affectionate friend,

EMILE LA SÈRE.

His Excellency BENITO JUAREZ,
President of the Mexican Republic, Paso del Norte.

Copy made from the original in Spanish, at Chihuahua, in July 1866, by permission of President Juarez.

H. R. DE LA REINTRIE.

No. 4.

President Juarez to Mr. La Sère.

[Translation]

CITY OF EL PASO, *March* 26, 1866.

MY MUCH ESTEEMED FRIEND: I am informed by your letter of the 18th of October, which I received during the present month, that in consequence of the upheavings which your country has suffered you are now in Havana. I most earnestly desire that peace may soon be re-established in the United States, in order that you may return to your home to apply yourself with more tranquillity to your affairs.

I regret much that I cannot send you the orders which you ask of me, because, as the time fixed in the law for commencing the work has elapsed, the minister who should issue the orders requires to have before him a petition from you, and besides, he requires to see the antecedents of the business, so that in view of what you may represent, and the measures which subsequently may have been adopted since the period of the law has elapsed, that may be determined which in justice may be proper.

Unfortunately we have not the archives, which, for their security and owing to the circumstances of the war, are now at a point distant from this place; but it will not be long before they shall be at the point where the government is established; so that if you will send your petition, probably by that time all the antecedents may be had for consideration. I have said the same thing to Don Ignacio Mejia, who has spoken to me respecting this business.

I shall be happy to know that you continue in the enjoyment of good health, and you may command, in whatever you please,

Your affectionate friend,

BENITO JUAREZ.

Mr. EMILE LA SÈRE, *Havana.*

Copy made from the original draught in Spanish, at Chihuahua, July, 1866, by permission of President Juarez.

H. R. DE LA REINTRIE.

No. 5.

Decree of Congress of Mexico.

[Accompanying the message of the President of the United States, thirty-ninth Congress, first session, House of Representatives, Ex. Doc. No. 73, part 2, page 243.—Translation.]

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT,
Mexico, December 14, 1862.

The citizen President of the republic has been pleased to direct to me the following decree :

Benito Juarez, constitutional President of the United Mexican States, to the inhabitants of the same :

Be it known that the congress of the union has thought proper to decree the following :

ARTICLE 1. The acts of the so-called authorities, imposed by the invaders and traitors, or which they may hereafter establish in the republic, are null and void, and can never be in any way approved.

ART. 2. All contracts celebrated by the said so-called authorities, or that may hereafter be celebrated, are also null and void ; and all who take part in the same will incur civil responsibility, in addition to the criminal responsibility already prescribed by the laws now in force, and such contracts can never be regarded in any manner, or taken into consideration, by the supreme government of the republic.

ART. 3. The traitors cannot be considered under any aspect in the treaties which the government may celebrate with France.

Dated in the hall of sessions of the congress of the union, in Mexico, the 13th of December, 1862.

PONCIANO ARRIAGA,
Vice-President.
FELIX ROMERO,
Deputy Secretary.
FRANCISCO BUSTAMENTE,
Deputy Secretary.

Wherefore, I order that it be printed, published, circulated, and duly observed.

BENITO JUAREZ.

The citizen JUAN ANTONIO DE LA FUENTE,
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Government.

NATIONAL PALACE OF MEXICO,
December 13, 1862.

I communicate the same to you for your intelligence, and to the consequent ends.

Liberty and reform !

FUENTE.

The Citizen GOVERNOR *of the Federal District.*

No. 6.

Decree of Maximilian.

[From the Diario del Imperio.—Translation.]

Maximilian, emperor of Mexico : Having heard our council of ministers, we decree :

Permission is given to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, privileged for

the opening of an interoceanic communication by the isthmus of this name, by decree of September 7, 1857, and conformably with article 23 of the same decree, that it may transfer the residence of its directorship from New Orleans to New York, and change its name to that of the "New York and Tehuantepec Railroad and Steamship Company."

Given at Mexico, on the 12th of October, A. D. 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

The MINISTER OF FOMENTO.

By the emperor:

JOAQUIN DE MIER Y TERAN,
Minister of Fomento.

No. 7.

Mr. Knap to Mr. De La Reintrie.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *May* 15, 1866.

DEAR SIR: On behalf of the "Tehuantepec Transit Company," I authorize you to proceed as its agent to the temporary capital of the republic of Mexico, and solicit of President Juarez a decree conferring on said company the right to construct and operate a line of railroad and telegraph across the isthmus of Tehuantepec. A draught, presenting such terms as will be acceptable to the company, is herewith enclosed, which you will present to the supreme government of the republic for consideration, when you make formal application for the grant. Our company has been formed, after information obtained on inquiry from Señor Romero, the minister of the Mexican republic here, to the effect that his government is desirous to enlist American enterprise and capital in the construction of a railroad across the isthmus, and that the privileges heretofore granted for its construction to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company have long since lapsed. It is composed of men of influence, friendly to the cause of the liberal party in Mexico, the services of some of whom in behalf of that cause are already known to President Juarez, and we hope, therefore, our application will receive his favorable consideration. You may assure him that if an equitable concession be given our company, we have every reason to believe that the necessary capital can be obtained in this country to construct and equip the road. in much less time even than the brief term named in the draught submitted by us.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES KNAP.

HENRY R. DE LA REINTRIE, Esq.

No. 8.

Mr. De La Reintrie to President Juarez.

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, *May* 16, 1866.

MY DEAR AND ESTEEMED SIR: At the request of a number of gentlemen, friends of mine, who possess to a great degree positive influence here, and others among them the means necessary to undertake and carry out the enterprise of opening a railroad route from the Atlantic to the Pacific, across the isthmus of

Tehuantepec, I propose, within a brief period, to proceed hence to the residence of the supreme government of the republic, which your excellency so worthily represents, for the purpose of asking that there be granted to myself and associates the privileges necessary for undertaking that work.

* * * * * * *

The proposals which I shall have the honor to make to the government of the republic, at a later period, I am sure will be carried out by the present company, whose agent I have been appointed, and I hope thus to be enabled in some measure to aid the noble cause which loyal Mexicans are defending. Until my arrival at the seat of the government, I request you will not concede said privileges to other persons who, perchance, may present themselves with the same view.

* * * * * * *

I remain your very obedient servant,

H. R. DE LA REINTRIE.

His Excellency BENITO JUAREZ,
President of the Mexican Republic.

A correct translation:

H. R. DE LA REINTRIE.

No. 9.

President Juarez to Mr. De La Reintrie

[Translation.]

CHIHUAHUA, *June* 22, 1866.

MY ESTEEMED SIR: I reply to your estimable letter of the 16th of May.

* * * * * * *

It seems to me that you would do well to send in your petition and proposals respecting the opening of the communication, by the isthmus of Tehuantepec, between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, so that everything may be taken in view when deciding upon another petition which Mr. La Sère, who was the former director of the said route, is to send.

Some months ago the said Mr. La Sère wrote to me, asking me to issue the respective orders to the effect that the authorities on the isthmus should not place any obstacle in his way in the execution of the works which the company was about to commence conformably to the concession made in the year 1860. I replied to Mr. La Sère, saying to him that, on account of not having the archives at El Paso, the antecedents in this business could not be examined, for which reason I could not give the orders which said gentleman desired; that he should make a petition in due form, setting forth the reasons which he might have in his favor, so that, in view of the same and of the antecedents which must exist in the archives of the ministry, that may be determined upon which should be just and proper.

As yet the petition of Mr. La Sère does not come to hand; and even though it should arrive, it will not be possible to take it into consideration until the government shall arrive at the place where the archives are deposited; and there is time for you to send in your proposals, so that everything may be had in view when the petition of Mr. La Sère is determined upon.

I desire that you may enjoy good health, and repeat myself your very obedient servant,

BENITO JUAREZ.

Mr. H. R. DE LA REINTRIE,
Washington.

A correct translation:

H. R. DE LA REINTRIE.

No. 10.

[For papers relating to charter of the Tehuantepec Transit Company, see pages 671 to 690.]

No. 11.

Mr. Knap to Mr. Cushing.

WASHINGTON, *November* 28, 1866.

SIR: I submit to your consideration, herewith, a decree of the Mexican government of the 15th October, 1866, granting to this company the franchise of a railroad and line of telegraph across the isthmus of Tehuantepec, together with correspondence accompanying the same I submit also, at the same time, a decree of the Mexican government of the 7th of September, 1857, conceding a similar privilege to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, together with other later decrees and miscellaneous documents on the same subject. And in view of these papers I request your opinion as counsel, on the following questions, namely:

First. Is the decree in favor of the Tehuantepec Transit Company a valid one, in substance and in form, to vest in the company the rights and privileges which it purports to grant in the name of the Mexican government?

Second. Is the validity of this grant impaired or injuriously affected by the prior grant to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company?

I remain, yours respectfully,

CHARLES KNAP, *President.*

CALEB CUSHING, Esq.

No. 12.

Mr. Cushing to Mr. Knap.

WASHINGTON, *November* 30, 1866.

SIR: I have examined the documents submitted to me by your letter of the 28th, and have considered the questions propounded in it.

"Is the decree in favor of the Tehuantepec Transit Company a valid one, in substance and in form, to vest in the company the rights and privileges which it purports to grant in the name of the Mexican government?"

I respond to this question in general, and without qualification, affirmatively.

The decree possesses on its face all the ordinary elements and forms of law.

It appears to have been issued on due application, after long and careful reflection, by competent authority of the executive of the Mexican republic. And its matter is within the apparent scope of the constitutional powers of the president of that republic, as vindicated, not only by the letter of organic law, but by multitudinous precedents in the political or administrative history of the government.

Although proof as to amount of what is technically understood as legal consideration is not material to the maintenance of a public grant in anywise, except possibly in some cases of fraud, still it may be pertinent to observe here, in justice to President Juarez and his ministers, that the present concession is beneficial in its terms to Mexico, and imports value to the Mexican government and people, equally with any other concessions of the same character heretofore made by that government.

I am not able to conceive of anything to be said in derogation of these conclusions, unless there be suggestion of inquiry whether President Juarez, by whose authority the decree was issued, was at the time the lawful executive of the government of the Mexican republic.

To such a suggestion, there is, in my opinion, complete and conclusive answer, whether we regard the subject from a point of view in Mexico or in the United States.

In Mexico, D. Benito Juarez, and he alone, is recognized as *in fact* president of the republic. No other person *in Mexico* offers pretensions to this office; no other person there exercises powers as such; no other person is dealt with or obeyed there as such by any authority, civil or military, either of the republic generally, or of any one of its States

According to the received principles of public law, these facts decisively establish the validity, as power, of any official act of President Juarez, not in conflict with the constitution of the Mexican republic.

It would avail nothing to show that President Juarez holds his office at the present time under exceptional circumstances. A similar objection might be offered to the tenure of office of a great majority of the persons who have, at successive periods, exercised the supreme executive power in Mexico. Yet the acts of any of such persons, when universally recognized in Mexico as such executive in fact, and some of them even while competing claimants of executive power existed there, were, and are still, received as completely legal, in both domestic and foreign relations; their legislative decrees and grants constitute integral parts of the domestic law, registered as such in the public archives, printed in the statute-books, and accepted and acted on by succeeding presidents; and they were officially treated with by foreign governments.

Nor would it avail anything to show that there exists, in the United States or elsewhere, *outside* of Mexico, some person claiming or pretending that he is or should be president of the Mexican republic. We might as well demur to any decree or official act of the Emperor Napoleon because of the pretensions of the Comte de Chambord or of the Comte de Paris. Critical thinkers in France may maintain the primary legitimacy of the Comte de Chambord, or the secondary legitimacy of the Comte de Paris; but is Napoleon any the less in France Emperor of the French? So in this case. Mere pretenders, whether republican or royal, are still pretenders only, and not the government.

And, from a point of view within the United States, the competency of President Juarez is absolutely fixed by the fact that he, and he alone, is recognized by the government of the United States.

No rule of public law is more incontestable than that, as to any questions of legality in the United States, it is the recognition of the government of the United States which determines definitively and exclusively what person is or is not the legitimate executive of any foreign government.

Pursuing the analogy already indicated, to object to this grant of President Juarez because of any supposed presidential pretensions of some person outside of Mexico, would be just as absurd as to object to a grant of any franchise to a citizen of the United States by the Emperor Napoleon, because of its wanting the signature of the Comte de Chambord or the Comte de Paris.

For the same reason it may be assumed, without argument, that the validity of this act of President Juarez is in no respect whatever affected by the other fact, that at the time of its date there was, or might have been, somewhere in Mexico, an Austrian archduke pretending to be emperor of Mexico. Suffice it to say that the imperial pretensions of that personage have never been recognized by the government of the United States.

Nor will it prejudice, but on the contrary it will strengthen, the force of the acts of President Juarez, if the French should undertake to set up in Mexico some Mexican puppet of theirs in place of the fugitive Austrian.

Undoubtedly, at a time hereafter, more or less remote, D. Benito Juarez will be succeeded by some other person, who may be elected to the office of president in his place. But this decree will continue to be in force as a lawful act of the Mexican government. To suppose the contrary of this—to suppose that each successive president of the Mexican republic is to undo the official acts of his predecessor, is to presume that Mexico has sunk down into a state of helpless and hopeless impotency, anarchy and chaos, such as to render her continued existence in the family of nations unendurable, either to America or to Europe.

I repeat, then, that in my opinion this grant is valid and complete to vest in the Tehuantepec Transit Company all the franchise which it purports to bestow.

Your second question is in the following words:

"Second. Is the validity of this grant impaired or injuriously affected by the prior grant to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company?"

By the documents relative to this question, it appears that the president of the Mexican republic, Ignacio Comonfort, having declared that a privilege granted to other parties, Sloo and his associates, for the construction of a railroad across the isthmus of Tehuantepec, had lapsed and become insubsistent by reason of non-performance of conditions, proceeded, on the 7th of September, 1857, to grant the same or similar privileges to new parties, designated as the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, which company, failing to comply with the conditions of its concession, applied for and obtained, on the 28th of March, 1859, from the president of the Mexican republic, Benito Juarez, a prorogation of the times of performance; and again on the 25th of October, 1860, obtained from the same president (Benito Juarez) an additional and still further prorogation of its times of performance.

It also appears that on the 15th of October, 1866, the same president of the republic, by decree of that date, declared that "the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company," having violated the obligations imposed on it by the decree of September 7, 1857, and those of March 28, 1859, and of October 25, 1860, in which were conceded adjournments of the times fixed to commence and complete the railroad in question, therefore the said privilege is declared lapsed and insubsistent, (se declara caduco e insubsistente el mencionado privilegio.)

Now the established rules of public law require us to presume that the government of the Mexican republic acted in good faith in each one of this series of acts, namely:

First in declaring void the concession anterior to that of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, and in conceding the privilege to that company;

Secondly, in the two successive prorogations granted to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company to cure its reiterated failures to perform; and

Thirdly, in finally pronouncing the absolute nullity, on account of such failures, of the concession made to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company.

True it is that the first and second of these acts of the Mexican government were done by President Comonfort; whilst the third, fourth, and fifth were done by President Juarez. But, in this distinction there is no cause to attribute superior force to President Comonfort's acts, and inferior to those of President Juarez.

Least of all does it become competent for the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company to call in question the efficiency of the final annulment of its charter by President Juarez, in view of the fact that down to that time it existed only in virtue of the successive acts of resurrection conceded to it by the favor of the same President Juarez.

In fine, the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company had ceased to exist by the limitations of its charter; the competent executive authority of the Mexican republic decreed that such was the fact, in due form of administrative law; the question of its existence as a corporation, holding the original franchise, is closed by that decree, which implies verity in all matters of material fact comprehended

within it; and, if the company have any cause of complaint in this respect, that complaint, by the express terms of its charter, must be addressed to the Mexican government, and does not concern in any way the Tehuantepec Transit Company any more than the like complaint of Sloo and his associates, on whose ruins the Louisiana Company was founded, concerned the Louisiana Company.

Finally, if anything more were needed to demonstrate the present nullity of the charter of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, it may be found in the consideration, that, as appears by one of the documents before me, this company in October last had recourse to the pretended Emperor Maximilian for the purpose of restoring its extinct vitality; which, in its legal and political effect, is precisely as if a person holding any lapsed privilege, which had been lawfully conceded to him by President Lincoln, but which privilege had become forfeited because of non-performance of conditions, should present himself to-day at Washington, claiming the enjoyment of the extinct privilege in virtue of a professed renewal of his charter under the official seal of the late government of the Confederate States. *Non tali auxilio * tempus eget.*

In the document before me is manifested another fact, which, if not of decisive importance legally, yet is interesting and significant in the same relation. The Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, it appears, applied to President Juarez, by letter of the 18th of October, 1865, for an order to the public authorities on the isthmus to protect the company in commencing the work prescribed by its charter. To which application President Juarez replied immediately after its reception, in March, 1866, that, much to his regret, he could not issue the order requested, because of the grant having lapsed for non-performance, and in amicable spirit inviting the company to present a petition in due form for the revalidation of its grant, on proper proofs that incidents had occurred to excuse non-performance. Instead of responding to this friendly overture on the part of the government of the republic, the company, it would seem, preferred and elected to stake its fortunes on those of the Archduke Maximilian, and obtained an act of confirmation or revalidation from him, during the very same month in which its default was being authenticated in legal form by the government of the republic, and a new concession made to the Tehuantepec Transit Company.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

C. CUSHING.

CHARLES KNAP, Esq.,
President of the Tehuantepec Transit Company.

No. 13.

Mr. Cushing's second opinion.

WASHINGTON, *December* 27, 1866.

DEAR SIR: I communicate to you herewith some supplemental observations on the subject of the legality of the charter of the Tehuantepec Transit Company, these observations been designed to meet the only objections, pretending to seriousness, which have come to my knowledge, in the way of criticism of the positions and conclusions of the opinion addressed to you by me on the 30th of November.

I submit the present observations, not because of doubt in my mind regarding any doctrine of law or matter of fact comprised in that opinion, but for the purpose, mainly, of justifying the action and vindicating the honor of President Juarez, and of the ministers of state and envoy of the Mexican republic, in so far as their acts have been called in question, with reference to the decree declaring the caducity of the grant of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, and conceding the lapsed franchise to the Tehuantepec Transit Company.

1. The most unjust and ungenerous reflections have been cast on the conduct of those high officers of the Mexican republic on account of the grantees having been required to make a deposit of one hundred thousand dollars as security to the Mexican government that this grant shall not, like those of the Louisiana and other previous companies, be trifled with and allowed to lapse, without accomplishing the great objects of public utility contemplated by the Mexican government. It seems to me that this precaution, however seemingly onerous to you and your associates, was a wise one on the part of President Juarez, entitling him to commendation instead of reproach on the part of all disinterested persons, whether in Mexico or the United States.

2. Objection has been made because of the caducity of the grant to the Louisiana Company not having been determined by a judgment of a court of law.

This objection comes with very ill grace from the Louisiana Company, which itself starts with a grant based on the assumption of the validity of the avoidance of a previous grant to the Sloo Company and to the Mixed Company, without the intervention of a court of law.

The decree issued by President Comonfort, September 3, 1857, declaring the lapse of the previous grants, and which immediately preceded the grant to the Louisiana Company, is in the following words, namely :

"*Sole article.*—The privileges granted on the 5th of February, 1853, to Mr. A. G. Sloo and associates, and to the company entitled 'Mixed,' for the opening of interoceanic communication through the isthmus of Tehuantepec, is declared null and void, the grantees having violated the obligations imposed by the decree of the above date; wherefore I order it to be published, circulated, and duly carried into effect." (United States Senate Documents, 35th Congress, 1st session, Executive No. 72, page 54.)

Thus it appears that if the want of a judicial decree annulling the previous grant were a defect in the title of the Tehuantepec Company, it would be an equally serious defect, and for the same reason, in the title of the Louisiana Company.

Nay, supposing this defect to exist, it would retroact to the effect of reviving the original grant of the same privilege to D. José Garay, which lies at the foundation of the whole series of concessions appertaining to the interoceanic communication by the isthmus of Tehuantepec; for, at a period when all his rights have passed away in due course of administration and legislation, he might bethink himself of the similar device of claiming that it was the peculiar and exclusive function of the courts of law to declare a concession lapsed for default of compliance with conditions on the part of the concessionary. (Variedades de Jurisprudencia, tom. ii, p. 390.)

But, indeed, this conception arises from misapprehension of the established system of public law in the Mexican republic, according to which all concessions of roads, canals, railways, and other similar works of internal improvement are matters, both in grant and construction of terms, of purely administrative resort, except in so far as they fall within the province of legislation. Neither the concession nor the determination of the question of forfeiture for non-performance of conditions is of the particular resort of the courts of law, unless referred to them by the administrative authorities. (Lares, Derecho Administrativo, [Mexicano,] pp. 66, 76, 146.)

3. But all these matters are of secondary importance at this moment, inasmuch as the present subject is definitely disposed of by the subsisting constitution of the Mexican republic, the legislation under the same, and the corresponding action of the executive.

Section 22, article 72, title 4, paragraph 3, of the Mexican constitution, reads as follows:

"Congress has the power * * of making laws regarding general means

of communication, and regarding the post office and mails." (Docs. House of Rep., 37th Congress, 2d sess., Exec. No. 100, p. 140.)

The Mexican republic has had so much painful experience of the effects of civil war and of invasion as sufficed to admonish the statesmen who framed the present constitution of the necessity of providing therein for the possible contingency of a forced interruption of the sessions of congress. In view of which they introduced into the body of the constitution the following provision, namely:

"ARTICLE 29. In cases of invasion, grave disturbance of the public peace, or whatever cause which may put society in great peril or conflict, solely the President of the republic, in concurrence with the council of ministers, and with the approbation of the congress of the Union, and in the recess of this, of the permanent deputation, may suspend the guarantees established by this constitution, with exception of those which assure the life of man; but such suspension shall be only for a limited time, by means of general provisions, and of such a character as not to favor a determined individual purpose. If the suspension take place during the session of congress they shall grant such authorization as they shall esteem necessary to enable the executive to confront the circumstances. If it shall take place during recess, the permanent deputation shall, without delay, convoke the congress for its advice and action." (Docs. House of Rep., 37th Congress, 2d sess., Exec. No. 100, p. 142.)

In precise compliance with this provision of the constitution it was that, on the 11th of December, 1861, after the war with France had begun, the Mexican congress adopted a law, the second article of which is as follows:

"ARTICLE 2. The executive is hereby invested with plenary power to make whatever regulations he may judge convenient, without other restrictions than those of saving the national independence and the integrity of the national territory, the form of government established by the constitution, and the principles and laws of reform." (Docs. House of Rep., 39th Congress, 1st sess., Exec. No. 73, part. 3, p. 24.)

The provisions of this law had a certain term, the lapse of which would determine the authority thus conferred on the executive; and the circumstances of the country continuing the same after the expiration thereof, congress issued another law on the 3d of May, 1862, continuing in the person of the President the same plenary powers of administration and legislation; and again, the same circumstances continuing, on the 27th of October, 1862; and, finally, on the 27th of May, 1863, congress enacted that the extraordinary powers theretofore granted to the executive were to continue until thirty days after the next meeting of the congress in its regular session, or until the termination of war with France. (Docs. House of Rep., 39th Congress, 1st sess., Exec. No. 73, part. 2, p. 24.)

Seeing that the condition of the country continued to be such as not to enable the next meeting of congress in regular session to take place, and seeing that the war with France has not yet terminated, thus it came to pass that the President of the Mexican republic remains invested with the legislative powers conferred upon him by the successive acts of congress.

Among these powers, as we have seen, is that of making laws concerning general means of communication, in virtue of which President Juarez, by a decree having the forms and force of law, declared the nullity of the grant to the Louisiana Company, and conferred the franchise on the Tehuantepec company.

4. Independently of the clause of the constitution, however, and in respect to matters not thus defined to have been of mere legislative resort, certain it is that a multitude of analogous or similar matters are, and always have been, comprehended within the functions of the administrative authorities of Mexico, either the supreme or the local, according to the nature of the subject-matter.

Such matters have been determined administratively, except where circum-

stances might occur to subject them to legislative supervision; but they have not been considered as questions of judicial jurisdiction, unless by previous administrative reference to the courts of law. Even if of a contentious nature, they still remain of administrative jurisdiction; and in such case the ministers constitute the "ordinary administrative tribunal," and "each minister is to discharge the functions of an ordinary administrative tribunal in all matters which are of the attribution of his branch of the public service." (Lares, ubi supra, p. 381.)

Finally, the same author defines the special subjects of controversy, the solution of which is of purely administrative resort, and among them, especially public works, as, for example, canals and railroads, (p. 170,) which subjects he had already defined as being essentially acts of administration, (p. 76;) and, in reference to all such matters, he concludes that the contentious administrative jurisdiction is vested in appropriate administrative tribunals, those tribunals being, in the first instance, each one of the ministers of state, in their respective departments, and, of course, the minister of fomento in all matters of internal improvement. (Ubi supra, pp. 377, 382, 383.)

The jurisprudence of Mexico, in these respects, corresponds with that of Spain, from which it is derived. (Colmeiro, Derecho Administrativo, Español, tom. i, p. 38; tom. ii, pp. 243, 250, 232.)

The same principles of public right prevail in other countries of the civil law so called; that is, whose jurisprudence is derived primarily from Rome. For illustration of this it needs only to refer to the case of France. (Laferrière, Cours de Droit Public et Administratif, 4me èd., tom. ii, pp. 232, 742.)

Circumstances do undoubtedly exist in which the extinction of a privilege requires, by the law of Mexico, to be verified by a declaratory sentence. Such is the case of imputed forfeiture, because of the abuse of a privilege by overstepping the limit of the concession. But no such sentence is required when the privileges lapse by the death of the grantee, if it be a personal grant, or the destruction of the thing itself, if it be a real grant; or by the expiration of the period of the grant; or by non-performance within the time prescribed by the conditions of the concession. (Escriche, Dic. de Legislacion, sub. voc. Privilegio.)

And the lapse of a grant by non-performance in the prescribed time is one of the precise cases of which the granting administrative authority has jurisdiction. (Compare Lares, p. 66; Colmeiro, tom. ii, pp. 75, 87, 225, 228; Laferrière, tom. ii, p. 770.)

The theory of this whole doctrine is that the permanent and general interests of society cannot be sacrificed for the occasional and special interests of individuals, as would be the case if there were no separation of powers, and if the courts were capable, at the instance of such special interests of individuals, of interposing, so as, in effect or tendency, to stop the wheels of the government.

Now, true it is, that administrative jurisprudence is more carefully reduced to a system, more thoroughly understood as the subject of many learned treatises, in the countries of the Roman law, than it is in the United States; and it thus happens that the American lawyer is prone hastily to jump to the conclusion that all controversies of private right are justiciable at once by the courts of law; which disposition of the common-law mind has led to the denial in certain quarters of the validity of the charter of the Tehuantepec Transit Company, because of the courts of law not having previously determined the caducity of the privileges of the Louisiana Company.

But we have the *thing* in the United States most unquestionably, although not invested in the same conspicuous forms as in Spain and Mexico.

On recurring to the subjects hereinbefore referred to, as of administrative resort by the civil law, and as involving quasi-judicial determination by the heads of the executive departments, it is plain to see that many of those matters are matters of administrative justice under the government of the United States.

But we have no occasion to assert the identity of the administrative institutions of the United States and Mexico, or the similitude of their forms of law. Profound differences exist in that respect between the institutions and forms of the respective countries.

In the present case of pretended conflict of right between the Tehuantepec Company and the Louisiana Company, the very possibility of any such question of competency or conflict is precluded by the fact that the declaration of the caducity of the privileges of the Louisiana Company, and the grant of franchise to the Tehuantepec company, are the act, at the same time, of the President of the republic in his executive capacity as the supreme executive power of the republic, and also in his legislative capacity as the provisional depositary of the supreme legislative power of the congress.

All these conclusions might indeed have been presumed, from the circumstance that the acts in question emanated from men so thoroughly versed in the institutions and jurisprudence of their country as President Juarez and the Minister Yglesias, to say nothing of the other heads of executive departments, such as the Ministers Lerdo de Tejada and Mejia.

5. I deem it wholly superfluous here to reargue the question of the rightful possession of the presidential office by President Juarez, the tenure of which rests with absolute legal certainty, in Mexico, upon the fact of his being the recognized President of the republic there; and, in the United States, in his also being recognized by the government of the United States.

The same consideration relieves me of the necessity of showing, as might easily be done, that when President Comonfort annulled the privileges of the Sloo Company and the Mixed Company, and granted the franchise to the Louisiana Company, his pretensions to the executive were, to say the least, more contestable, in strict law, than those of Juarez at the present time.

6. Let me say, the construction of a railroad and line of telegraph for interoceanic communication by the way of the isthmus of Tehuantepec, with suitble harbor improvements at Coatzacoalcos and La Ventosa, including lighthouses, is an object of great and manifest utility to the whole commercial world, but primarily so to the United States and the Mexican republic. It has at all times been thus regarded by the public authorities and the people of both countries. The United States government at one time desired to possess the exclusive right of this communication, but has long since desisted from such pretensions, out of respect for the territorial sovereignty of Mexico. At a later day, the privilege of constructing this communication being vested in the hands of individual citizens of the United States, was made the object of special treaty protection by joint act of the American and Mexican governments. Now, as then, it is impossible that the American government should fail to consider with good will a great enterprise of such immense value to the people of the United States situated on both oceans. As to Mexico, she has been constantly ready heretofore, and will doubtless continue to favor this great work, by whatsoever persons or parties, and with whatsoever political opinions, she may have been or may be ruled. To her it would not only be the means of great economic improvements and of large national revenue in the fifteen per cent. of the net income of the communication, but an efficient step, also, to more stable nationality, by reason of the interests of other powers in its common use, and their consequent mutual friendship for the republic. President Juarez has therefore done a signal service to his country, in embracing the opportunity, when the franchise of the communication had lapsed in the hands of the previous grantees, to place it in the hands of yourself and your associates, with new provisions of guarantee for the construction of the railway and telegraph line, and for the safeguard of the interests of the Mexican republic. Under these circumstances, it would be injurious to the people of Mexico to doubt the future surety of the grant, whoever may be the President of the

Mexican republic, whether D. Benito Juarez, or some other person who shall be constitutionally raised to power. And, therefore, it needs only that all conflict of private interests in the United States shall be caused to cease, either by the conciliation or the discouragement of parties setting up title in the lapsed franchise of the Louisiana Company, to have this great undertaking placed on the most solid foundation, and to insure the speedy completion of an inter-oceanic communication, entitled, by its nature and its value, to the protection and support of all nations and all governments, but especially of the Mexican republic and the United States.

7. The Archduke Maximilian is respectable as a man; he is of eminent rank as a cadet of the imperial house of Austria; he may proudly appeal to the historical recollections of descent from the great Emperor Charles, whom Hernan Cortes served (with but poor requital) in the conquest and colonization of New Spain. But all these titles to consideration avail him nothing in the desperate enterprise he has undertaken of establishing a European dynasty on the soil of Mexico. In the eyes of all America, he is simply a foreign adventurer, the intruded instrument of the Emperor of the French, but whom the arms of France could not maintain against the mere passive resistance of President Juarez, standing statue-like as the impersonation of Mexican independence, and of American protestation against the intermeddling of Europe in the internal affairs of the republican peoples of America.

Santa Ana, Almonte, Miramon, Ortega—these might have been names of power, in other circumstances, to serve as rallying points of party or faction; but when the French shall have embarked at Vera Cruz to the last man, the Mexican republic will, in the estimation of the people of Mexico and of the world, be only half rehabilitated, unless Benito Juarez resumes the place, from which French intervention drove him, in the palace of the government at the capital, as the constitutional President of the republic.

Whether he shall do so or not, and whether he shall or not be re-elected, his official acts as President, done in the discharge of the extraordinary functions with which the last constitutional congress invested him, must and will continue to have the efficacious force of law. To deny this, to say Juarez was not the legitimate President of the Mexican republic when he did those acts, would be to say that the Mexican republic had ceased to be; it would be to aver that the very life of the Mexican nation and its government ended with the French invasion; that all its national institutions had perished utterly, and become as if they had never existed; that its treaty relations with foreign powers were extinct; and that the national sovereignty of the republic lies dead and buried under the imperial pretensions of Maximilian.

Of course, no future President or congress of Mexico can or will say this: they must admit, nay, they must peremptorily insist, that the life of the republic had not been cut off or suspended for a moment; and to prove this they must adduce and rely upon two classes of facts, namely: first, the uninterrupted recognition of the Mexican republic by the United States in the person of President Juarez; and, secondly, the uninterrupted exercise of the supreme functions of government, executive and legislative, by President Juarez, the legal monuments of which consist of all such laws, decrees, and orders as were issued by him officially, whether at Mexico, at Paso del Norte, at Chihuahua, or anywhere else, in the proper form, with due attestation of the respective minister of state, and within the scope of the extraordinary powers intrusted to him by the last Congress.

In view of all which, I reiterate my opinion of the perfect legal validity of the charter of the Tehuantepec Transit Company.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

C. CUSHING.

CHARLES KNAP, Esq., *President*.

45 MEX.

No. 14.

Opinion of Hon. Reverdy Johnson.

WASHINGTON, *December* 28, 1866.

My opinion is requested on these questions:

First. Is the decree in favor of the Tehuantepec Transit Company of the 15th October, 1866, a valid one, substantially and formally, so as to vest in the company the rights and privileges it purports to grant?

Second. If it be otherwise valid, is its validity impaired or injuriously affected by the prior grant to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, of the 7th of September, 1857?

1. The grant of October, 1866, was made by the executive of the government of Mexico, which, before that date, was, and ever since has been, the only government of that country recognized by our Congress and President. In the cases of Rose *vs.* Himely, 4 Cra., 241, and Gelston *vs.* Hoyt, 3 Wheat., 246, it was held by the Supreme Court of the United States to be a doctrine of national law, that it is the exclusive province of governments to recognize new states; and that until this is done, "courts of justice are bound to consider the ancient state of things are remaining unaltered."

The grant of October, 1866, therefore, is as valid as it would have been if the government of which Juarez was President had never been disturbed. In that case, his authority to make the grant, no prior legal one existing, cannot be questioned. Grants of analogous character have frequently been made by the executive of Mexico, and never called into doubt. I am, therefore, clear in the opinion, on the hypothesis that there was no previous legal and existing grant of a franchise, that the one in question of October, 1866, is perfectly valid.

2. Was the grant of the 7th of September, 1857, to the Louisiana Company a valid one, when that of the 15th October, 1866, was made to the Transit Company?

I am equally clear in the opinion that it was not. By its terms, the periods for beginning and completing the work were fixed. If neither was complied with, the grant was to be void, or by proper authority might be declared void. That neither of these conditions was fulfilled is established by the fact that the company, on the 28th of March, 1859, and 25th of October, 1860, applied for, and obtained from Juarez, an extension of the time. When the extended time elapsed, the work was not begun or completed, and the franchise was consequently subject to forfeiture. No further time was asked of Juarez; but in answering, in March, 1866, an application made to him for a different purpose by the company, in October, 1865, and refusing it, on the ground that the franchise had lapsed from failure of performance, Juarez requested them to show him why the failure had occurred. Instead of doing this, however, they applied to Maximilian for a confirmative grant, and obtained it. For the reasons stated under the first head, this grant was wholly void. Maximilian was then, and is now, neither the government *de facto* nor *de jure* of Mexico. The United States have not only not recognized him in either capacity, but have expressly refused to do so. This being the case, the only government competent to decide the question of forfeiture was that of Juarez. And, in the due exercise of that authority, he, in proper form, adjudged the forfeiture, and made the grant of the 15th of October, 1866. The validity of such grant, therefore, in my opinion, is in no way impaired or injuriously affected by the prior one to the Louisiana Company. If there was any government in Mexico in 1866 competent to grant such a franchise, (and that will hardly be denied,) it was that of Juarez, and not of Maximilian.

In the eye of the law, the latter is but an adventurer, seeking to overturn

the existing government, and until he succeeds in this, (an event most improbable at any time, and certainly not brought about in 1866,) that government is to be esteemed the only legitimate one, and, being so, was capable, on the 15th October, 1866, of making the grant of that date to the Tehuantepec Transit Company.

REVERDY JOHNSON.

CHARLES KNAP, Esq.,
President Tehuantepec Transit Company, New York.

No. 15.

Supplement to Mr. Cushing's opinions.

WASHINGTON, *January* 17, 1867.

DEAR SIR: Intimation comes to me of the assertion, by some persons connected with the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, that the law of the Mexican republic, declaring the privilege of that company forfeited by lapse of time, is in conflict with an article (Article 35) in the concession to the company to the effect that "any doubt or difference in the execution or interpretation of this privilege shall be decided by arbitrators."

This new pretension of the Louisiana Company apparently surrenders the old one, which assumed the legal necessity of a decree of a court of law, to pronounce the lapse of its privilege for non-performance in time.

But the pretension is manifestly unfounded. The language of the article is plain; the meaning equally so. It refers to any question within the concession, not to the concession itself. The inquiry whether the concession exists or not, whether it has or has not expired by lapse of time, is not inquiry of its execution or interpretation.

Besides which, this article must be construed in collation with article 21, which declares that "the company shall have no greater rights than Mexicans, nor any other means of enforcing them than those conceded to the latter by the laws of the republic." And the laws of the republic annul the privilege of the Louisiana Company, both in form and in fact.

These reiterated efforts to impeach the legality and the good faith of the acts of the government of President Juarez in this respect compel the exposition of certain matters of fact and of law, which might otherwise have been pretermitted.

The Louisiana Tehuantepec Company seem to labor under serious misapprehensions on the subject of their present and possible future relation to the Mexican government.

I referred, in my opinion of the 30th of November, to the fact that the Louisiana Company had elected to throw itself upon the usurper Maximilian for rehabilitation, instead of availing itself, as it was invited to do, of the generous disposition of President Juarez in their behalf.

In doing this, in obtaining such a concession from Maximilian, they seem to have overlooked the law enacted by the congress of the Mexican republic on the 13th of December, 1862, to the effect that all such acts are null and void; that all who take part in the same are both civilly and criminally responsible therefor; and that such concessions can never receive any consideration at the hands of the supreme government of the Mexican republic; that is to say, the Louisiana company has not only lost its grant by lapse of time, but it has, in effect, outlawed itself by undertaking to deal with the usurped government, and in defiance of the laws of the republic.

In Mexico the parties engaged in the transaction are criminally responsible. Any property the company may have on the soil of Mexico has become forfeit

to the government. Its charter would have incurred forfeiture under this law if it had not lapsed by neglect; and should the company think hereafter of applying to any government of the Mexican republic for favors, it will have its treasonable practices with Maximilian thrown in its face; and by those practices, which are alike illegal in the United States as in Mexico, and offensive to the unchangeable political convictions of both countries, it has voluntarily stripped itself of all faculty of complaint, either to the Executive or the Congress of the United States. In truth, by reason of this act, the present legal condition of the Louisiana Company is quite as desperate in the United States as it is in Mexico.

Maximilian and his partisans, in contemplation of law, are persons in rebellion against the Mexican republic. Any contract made with such rebels by a citizen of the United States is, by the universal public law, "so fraught with illegality and turpitude as to be utterly null and void," being to the prejudice of the government recognized by the United States. (Kenneth *vs.* Chambers, 14 Howard, 38; Williams *vs.* Oliver, 12 Howard, 111; De Wutz *vs.* Hendricks, 9 Moore, 586; Jones *vs.* Garcia del Rio, 1 Turner & Russell, 497; Yrisarri *vs.* Clemens, 3 Bingham, 432.)

Such were the law and foreign policy of the United States in past times, and which the great events of our latter domestic history have but served to strengthen and confirm.

Annexed hereto you will find translations of the concession made by Maximilian to the Louisiana Company, and of the above-mentioned decree of the congress of Mexico. This decree, be it observed, was passed at a regular session of the Mexican congress while in the full and complete exercise of its constitutional functions at the capital, and during a regular elective period of the presidential authority of President Juarez. It is not subject to any cavil whatsoever in the relation of law. It is just as duly and unquestionably a supreme law of the Mexican republic as the act of Congress "to establish the judicial courts of the United States" is a supreme law of these United States.

I am, very respectfully,

C. CUSHING.

CHARLES KNAP, Esq.

No. 1.

[From the Diario del Imperio.—Translation.]

MAXIMILIAN, EMPEROR OF MEXICO.

Having heard our council of ministers, we decree:

Permission is given to the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, privileged for the opening of an interoceanic communication by the isthmus of this name, by decree of September 7, 1857, and conformably with article 23d of the said decree, that it may transfer the residence of its directorship from New Orleans to New York, and change its name to that of the "New York and Tehuantepec Railroad and Steamship Company." Given at Mexico on the 12th of October, A. D. 1866.

MAXIMILIAN.

The MINISTER OF FOMENTO.

By the Emperor:

JOAQUIN DE MIER Y TERAN,
The Minister of Fomento.

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158	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.	June 4	Acknowledges receipt of his note of June 2 and its enclosures relative to goods seized at Clarksville; will send the papers to his government; desires further information on the subject.	....	538
159	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.	July 7	Acknowledges his note above, and will comply with his request for further information.	....	539
160	Do	Aug. 8	In further reference to the seizure of arms and merchandise at Bagdad and the demand of General Escobedo for their return to him; Mr. Seward gives him a statement of the proceedings taken by officers of the United States; these being deemed lawful, the executive government cannot intervene in the premises; his remedy is to be found in the courts of the United States.	....	539
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163	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.	Oct. 22	Acknowledges receipt of his note of 20th instant; these forced loans are levied by the imperial officers; will forward the documents to his government, who, doubtless, will do full justice to Mr. Gauche and other citizens of the United States aggrieved.	....	542
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164	General Sheridan to General Grant.	Nov. 27	[Telegram.] In reference to the contemplated occupation of Matamoras by General Sedgwick; the course he intends to pursue in such a contingency.	....	543
165	Mr. Stanton to Gen. Sheridan.	Nov. 30	[Telegram.] Sheridan's action is approved by the President; that of Sedgwick is not.	....	544
166	General Sheridan to General Grant.	Nov. 30	Report of General Sedgwick's occupation of Matamoras is premature; Sheridan's proceedings in the premises; matters will not be complicated in any event.	....	544
167	.....do.....	Dec. 1	[Telegram.] Leaves for the Rio Grande to look into Ortega affair and Sedgwick trouble; thinks he can settle those matters, &c., &c.	....	545
168	.....do.....	Dec. 10	His report on the state of affairs on the Rio Grande, and his proceedings relative to the occupation of Matamoras by General Sedgwick; the city now in possession of General Escobedo.	....	545
169	.....do.....	Dec. 11	[Telegram.] Same subject as the above; release of General Ortega.	....	546
170	General Sheridan to Gen. Rawlins.	Dec. 11	A more full and detailed report of the condition of affairs at Matamoras and its occupation by United States troops.	....	547
		Dec. 7	Copy of an article published in the Rio Grande Courier, dated at Brownsville, Texas.	....	547
171	Mr. Romero to Mr. Seward.	Dec. 13	Transmits extracts from the Tribune and World, of New York, respecting the occupation of Matamoras by General Sedgwick; calls attention of the Secretary to this matter, though he has no official report of it, and is satisfied that the United States government has not ordered such a proceeding.	2	548
	Enclosure 1.....	Dec. 5	Special despatch to the New York World, from Brownsville, on same subject as above.	....	549
	Enclosure 2.....	Dec. 5	Despatch to the Tribune; same subject as above, giving an account of the repulse of the liberal forces attacking Matamoras.	....	552
172	Mr. Seward to Mr. Romero.	Dec. 17	Acknowledges receipt of his note of the 13th instant; the proceedings of General Sedgwick in occupying Matamoras are without the authority of the United States; they have consequently been disallowed; General Sedgwick has been suspended from command and subjected to discipline.	....	555
			No. 17.—*Evacuation of Mexico by the French.*		
173	Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward.	May 16	Communicates an extract from La France; no more Austrian volunteers going to Mexico; extracts from diplomatic correspondence transmitted; arrival of General Almonte as Maximilian's minister to France.	3	555
	Enclosure 1.....	May 13	Extract from Memorial Diplomatique: The good offices of the United States solicited with reference to reprisals, on the part of Juarez; limit of the occupation of Mexico by the French army.	....	556
	Enclosure 2.....	May 13	Extract from same: Austria will send no more troops to Maximilian.	....	556
	Enclosure 3.....	May 14	Article from the Journal des Debats, on the protest of Mr. Seward against Austria's sending more volunteers to Mexico.	....	556
174	Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward.	May 31	His interview with the minister of foreign affairs of France, with reference to the withdrawal of the French army from Mexico.	....	557
175	Mr. Hay to Mr. Seward.	Aug. 10	Sundry paragraphs published in Paris journals respecting the departure of Maximilian's wife for Mexico, and the object of her mission; the effect of the visit of the princess in Paris.	....	558
176	Mr. Seward to the Marquis de Montholon.	Aug. 16	Calls attention of the French minister to the two decrees of Maximilian, appointing General Osmont and Mr. Friant as members of his cabinet; Congress and people of the United States may not be satisfied with these proceedings, in view of the engagement by France to withdraw her forces from Mexico.	....	558

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			Encloses the two decrees of Maximilian of July 26, 1866, referred to above.	....	559
177	Mr. Hay to Mr. Seward.	Aug. 17	Visit of the Princess Charlotte to France; interview with the minister for foreign affairs; no change in the policy of France respecting the withdrawal of her troops from Mexico.	....	559
178	Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow.	Aug. 24	Transmitting copies of the President's proclamation of August 17, declaring null and void a decree of Prince Maximilian closing certain Mexican ports.	....	560
			A copy of President Johnson's proclamation is here annexed.	....	560
179	.....do.....	Oct. 8	The feeling in the United States touching the withdrawal of the French expedition from Mexico; the government believes France will carry out her engagements; no truth in the reports of supposed relations with General Santa Anna; we wait the evacuation.	....	561
180	.....do.....	Nov. 9	The President pleased with the friendly disposition of the Marquis de Moustier; departure of Mr. Campbell as United States minister to Mexico; encloses copy of instructions to Mr. Campbell, to be used by Mr. Bigelow at his own discretion.	....	562
181	Mr. Seward to Mr. Stanton.	Nov. 23	Communicates correspondence with France, and instructions to Mr. Campbell, respecting the Mexican question; Mr. Stanton to give such instructions to the army of observation as the safety of the United States may require.	....	562
182	Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.	Nov. 23	Transmits copies of correspondence relative to the change in the period of the withdrawal of the French troops from Mexico; this is not satisfactory to the President; no new instructions needed by him; hopes for a favorable solution.	2	563
	Enclosure 1.....	Nov. 8	Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward: The Mexican question; change of policy of the Emperor Napoleon as to the period of the withdrawal of the French army; his interview with Napoleon on this subject; mission of General Castelnau to Mexico, and its object; Napoleon abandons Maximilian.	....	563
	Enclosure 2.....	Nov. 23	Mr. Seward to Mr. Bigelow: The United States expects that France will carry out the evacuation of Mexico as agreed upon, and thus prevent further complications; we cannot admit of modifications now.	....	565
183	Mr. Bigelow to Mr. Seward.	Nov. 30	Relative to the evacuation of Mexico by the French army, and its delay; it is expected the whole force will leave in March, 1867.	....	566
			No. 18.—*Correspondence with the United States legation to Mexico.*		
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	Enclosure 2.....	.....	Petition of D. D. Bramard and others, to the Secretary of State, complaining of the loans exacted of them at Monterey.	....	568
185	Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.	Oct. 20	Instructions as to his policy on his arrival in Mexico; he will be accompanied by a general of the United States army; Juarez to be recognized as President.	....	569
186	.....	Oct. 26	The President to the Secretary of War: Desires that General Grant shall accompany Mr. Campbell to Mexico, and give him the aid of his advice.	....	571
187	.....	Oct. 30	The President to the Secretary of War: Directs that General Sherman shall accompany Mr. Campbell to Mexico in place of General Grant, who cannot go.	....	572
188	General Sheridan to General Grant.	Nov. 8	Is informed that Maximilian has abdicated; change of flag of the troops in Mexico.	....	572
189	Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.	Nov. 9	His arrival at New York with General Sherman; no instructions as to how he is to go to Mexico, and no vessel at his disposal.	....	573
190	Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.	Nov. 9	The steamer Susquehanna is ready to take him to any place in Mexico he may designate, and at his disposal now.	....	573
191	Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.	Nov. 21	Reports his arrival at Havana; message from Marshal Bazaine to President A. Johnson, as given by General Magruder to Mr. Campbell.	....	573
192	.....do.....	Nov. 23	Cause of his delay in proceeding to his post; his future movements towards Vera Cruz.	....	575
193	Mr. Seward to Mr Campbell.	Nov. 30	His despatches 2 and 3, received; his proceedings approved.	....	576

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194	Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.	Dec. 1	Reports his arrival at Vera Cruz on the 29th of November; that Maximilian was still at Orizaba; that no French troops had left Mexico; and that, in accordance with his instruction, he would not land there. (No. 4.)	....	577
195	.....do.....	Dec. 1	Encloses a proclamation published on the morning of December 1, at Vera Cruz, stating that Maximilian had decided to remain in Mexico. (No. 5.)	1	578
	Enclosure.....	Dec. 1	Proclamation of the political prefect of Vera Cruz, announcing that Maximilian would stay in Mexico.	....	578
196	Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.	Dec. 15	Acknowledges the receipt of despatches Nos. 4 and 5. (No. 10.)	....	579
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	Enclosure 3.....	Dec. 8	Communication from Mr. Campbell to General Escobedo, acknowledging one from General Escobedo; making an appointment to call on him with General Sherman the next day, and expressing the views of the United States government on Mexican affairs.	....	582
199	Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.	Dec. 27	Acknowledging the receipt of the preceding communication. (No. 11.)	....	582
200	Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.	Dec. 24	Reporting his arrival at New Orleans, and his motives for returning to the United States.	3	583
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	Enclosure 2.....	Dec. 19	Communication from Mr. Campbell to General Berriozabal, informing him of his determination to return to the United States.	....	584
	Enclosure 3.....	Dec. 15	Letter from Mr. Lane, United States consul at Vera Cruz, to Mr. Campbell, reporting what transpired there since the Susquehanna left.	....	584
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202	Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.	Dec. 24	Telegram announcing his arrival at New Orleans.....	....	585
203	Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.	Dec. 23	Instructing him to remain at New Orleans until further instructions, and giving him permission to go and see his family.	....	585
204	Mr. Campbell to Mr. Seward.	Dec. 31	Claim of Captain McGaffey, of the United States schooner Mary Bertrand, stating that this claim was one of the reasons why he did not feel disposed to offer the good offices of the United States to the Mexican government. (No. 8.)	4	586
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	Mr. Seward to M. Montholon.	Aug. 16	Notifying that the assumption at this time of administrative powers by two officers of the French army in Mexico is likely to be injurious to the good relations between the United States and France, as it is liable to be regarded by the people of the United States as inconsistent with the engagements France has made about the withdrawal of her troops.	2	638
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252	Mr. Hale to Mr. Seward.	Oct. 27	Relating to the expected sailing of 900 Egyptian negroes for Mexico. (No. 44.)	....	661
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258	Mr. Seward to Mr. Roberts.	Dec. 13	Communicating a copy of the charter granted to the Tehuantepec Transit Company by President Juarez on the 15th October, 1866.	10	671
		Oct. 15	Charter of the Tehuantepec Transit Company and the several documents accompanying the same, showing proceedings of said company in the premises.	....	672
258	Mr. Seward to Mr. Campbell.	Dec. 15	Transmits copy of his letter to Mr. Roberts respecting said charter, and requests the minister to ask for such explanations as will give him a proper understanding of the subject.	1	681
	Mr. Seward to Mr. Roberts.	Dec. 7	Review of the correspondence of Messrs. Roberts and Hargous with the State Department respecting claims of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company; the department and President decline to intervene in the matter, but will submit a copy of this letter to the Mexican government; the President does not doubt the good faith of the Mexican government.	....	681
259	Mr. Roberts to Mr. Seward.	Dec. 21	Receipt of Mr. Seward's letter of the 8th instant; insists upon the claims of the Louisiana Company; accuses President Juarez of bad faith towards himself and company, and asks that the United States withdraw their recognition of President Juarez and government.	....	688
	Mr. Seward to Mr. Roberts.	Dec. 26	Receipt of his letter of 21st December; has been submitted to the President, who declines to accede to his wishes; Mr. Campbell will submit the same to President Juarez.	....	689

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			Supplement No. 1.—*Tehuantepec Transit Company.*		
	Mr. Knap to Mr. Seward.	1867. Feb. 2	Refutes the statements of Mr. Roberts as to the claim of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company, and submits 13 documents to prove the legality of the title of the Tehuantepec Transit Company, granted by President Juarez October 15, 1866, including the correspondence of their agent with the Mexican government, the charter of the company, and the opinions of Messrs. Cushing and Johnson in support of the same.	....	690

Tabla que manifiesta el trabajo material desempeñado por la Legacion Mexicana en Washington, del 15 de Agosto de 1860 al 31 de Diciembre de 1866.

Año.	Correspondencia con el Ministerio de Relaciones Esteriores de México.												Correspondencia con el Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos.									Correspondencia con los Consulados de México en los Estados Unidos, Legaciones mexicanas fuera, Ministerios del Gobierno mexicano y otras oficinas—				Cartas particulares sobre asuntos oficiales y extraoficiales.			
	De la legacion.						Del Ministerio de Relaciones de México.						De la legacion.					Del Departamento de Estado de Washington.				De la legacion.		A la legacion.		De la legacion.		A la legacion.	
	Número de notas.						Número de notas.						Número de notas.					Número de notas.				Número de notas y anexos.		Número de notas y anexos.					
	Oficiales.	Reservadas.	Total.	Anexos.	Total.	Páginas.	Oficiales.	Reservadas.	Total.	Anexos.	Total.	Páginas.	Oficiales.	Anexos.	Total.	Páginas.	Páginas impresas.	Oficiales.	Anexos.	Total.	Páginas.	Número de notas y anexos.	Páginas.	Número de notas y anexos.	Páginas.	Número de cartas.	Páginas.	Número de cartas.	Páginas.
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1861....	392	38	430	212	642	4,053	300	41	341	43	384	875	55	102	157	814	125	42	19	61	72	182	231	193	260	741	1,192	698	1,038
1862....	421	8	429	472	901	4,381	106	10	116	15	131	681	61	192	253	1,834	463	32	8	40	57	160	211	176	248	908	2,524	1,019	2,635
1863....	184	..	184	304	488	1,369	52	..	52	6	58	201	32	83	115	793	164	38	10	48	69	68	119	69	137	489	1,091	421	903
1864....	333	..	333	365	698	2,068	74	..	74	9	83	120	64	151	215	1,181	437	58	55	113	190	221	309	237	343	1,297	2,916	1,309	2,987
1865....	705	..	705	865	1,570	4,497	470	..	470	63	533	1,212	121	320	441	1,975	474	65	17	82	109	331	415	343	471	1,816	3,189	1,774	3,927
1866....	903	..	903	1,289	2,192	6,678	552	..	552	74	626	1,555	136	394	530	2,338	709	115	18	133	216	293	385	310	418	1,978	3,492	1,991	4,681
Total..	3,031	56	3,087	3,556	6,643	23,791	1,620	65	1,685	220	1,905	4,834	476	1,244	1,720	8,948	2,372	354	129	483	721	1,301	1,729	1,379	1,951	7,430	14,920	7,405	16,678

RESULTADO TOTAL DEL TRABAJO.

	Notas y anexos á—	Páginas.	Notas y anexos de—	Páginas.
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de México	6, 643	23, 791	1, 905	4, 834
Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos	1, 720	8, 948	483	721
Consulados, legaciones, ministerios, &c., &c., &c	1, 301	1, 729	1, 379	1, 951
Cartas particulares	7, 430	14, 920	7, 405	16, 678
Total	17, 094	49, 388	11, 172	24, 184

TOTAL GENERAL.

	Notas y anexos.	
	Número.	Páginas.
Emanadas de la legacion	17, 094	49. 388
Enviadas á la legacion	11, 172	24, 184
	28, 266	73, 572

Esta correspondencia está distribuida en 45 volúmenes encuadernados de á folio, en la forma siguiente: correspondencia enviada al Ministerio de Relaciones de Mexico, 24 volúmenes; recibida de aquel Ministerio 5; al Departamento de Estado de Washington, 7; de dicho Departamento 2; enviada a diferentes oficinas de Mexico y recibida de las mismas, 3; cartas particulares recibidas, 4.

El año de 1860 puede tomarse como término medio del trabajo ordinario de la Legacion en tiempos normales.

Durante todo el tiempo comprendido en la tabla precedente, el Sr. Romero ha estado de gefe de la Legacion Mexicana. Llegó á Washington el 24 de Diciembre de 1859 de Secretario de la Legacion, siendo Ministro entónces el Sr. Don José M. Mata. El 14 de Agosto de 1860 salió el Sr. Mata de Nueva York para Vera Cruz, dejando acreditado al Sr. Romero, como encargado interino de negocios ante el Departamento de Estado. El Sr. Romero presentó sus credenciales á Mr. William Henry Trescott, sub-secretario de Estado, encargado entonces del Departamento. El 26 de Mayo de 1862 presentó el Sr. Romero al Departamento de Estado, las credenciales, firmadas el 3 de Abril por el Sr. Gral. Don Manuel Doblado, Ministro de Relaciones de México, que lo acreditaban como Encargado de Negocios cerca del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos. El 23 de Abril de 1863, notificó el Sr. Romero á Mr. Seward que habia recibido licencia para regresar a México, de la cual usó á poco. Se despidió del Presidente Lincoln el 27; salió de Washington el dia siguiente, y de Nueva York el 16 de Mayo inmediato.

El 23 de Octubre de 1863, volvió el Sr. Romero á Nueva York como Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de México en los Estados Unidos, y presentó sus credenciales al Presidente Lincoln el 29 del mismo mes, permaneciendo desde entonces en Washington con ese caráeter.

De 2,155 dias que el Sr. Romero ha estado en los Estados Unidos (contando cinco años completos, 139 dias en 1860 y 190 en 1863) ha pasado fuera de Washington y siempre en asuntos del servicio 306 dias, en la forma siguiente; en 1860, 6; en 1861, 31; en 1862, 36; en 1863, 29; en 1864, 96; en 1865, 89; y en 1866, 19; habiendo pasado en Washington, 1849.

Mientras el Sr. Romero estuvo de encargado de negocios, no tuvo mas que un agregado en la Legacion. El Sr. Don Mariano Degollado primero y el Sr. Don J. Escobar y Armendariz despues. En algunos intervalos estuvo solo. Desde que volvió de Ministro ha tenido dos ó tres empleados, y el Sr. Mariscal ha estado durante todo ese tiempo de Secretario de la Legacion.

El número total de entrevistas oficiales que el Sr. Romero tuvo con el Secretario de Estado el Hon. William H. Seward, del 2 de Setiembre de 1861 al 31 de Diciembre de 1866, es de 109, en la forma que sigue; como encargado de negocios (hasta el 23 de Mayo de 1863,) 63; como Ministro (desde el 27 de Octubre de 1863,) 46; y 26 con el Presidente de los Estados Unidos, sobre asuntos oficiales, a saber: con el Presidente Buchanan, 3; con el Presidente Lincoln, 15, y con el Presidente Johnson, 8. Total 135.

Durante los dos años y medio que el Gobierno republicano de México permaneció en el Estado de Chihuahua, sus comunicaciones con el resto de la República y del mundo fueron enteramente cortadas, y estaba atenido á su Legacion en Washington para saber lo que pasaba en el centro, en el sur y el oriente de México, en los Estados Unidos y Europa. Toda la correspondencia para el gobierno mexicano, incluyendo los periodicos para el Presidente Juarez y su gabinete, tenian que enviarse al Sr. Romero. Esto hacia que aumentarán muy considerablemente las labores de la Legacion, pues era necesario mantener una correspondencia activa con algunos generales mexicanos en campaña y con amigos de México en Francia, otros puntos en Europa y en la America del Sur. Ademas de esto y de los deberes ordinarios de Ministro, el Sr. Romero ha estado encargado de la compra de armas y municiones, fletamento de vapores que llevasen á México el material de guerra, la impresion de bonos mexicanos, la negociacion de ellos en el mercado y el hacer contratos con otros objetos, la circulacion del periodico oficial del gobierno mexicano, &c., &c.

El aprecio con que el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos ha visto la correspondencia del Sr. Romero aparece del hecho de que el Congreso ha pedido varias veces al Presidente, de una manera especial, las notas del Sr. Romero, y de que el Presidente le ha enviado, de 489 notas que el Sr. Romero ha dirigido al Departamento de Estado, 371, del modo siguiente: de 1861, 27; de 1862, 35; de 1863, 21; de 1864, 54; de 1865, 115; de 1866, 119. El número total de anexos enviados y publicados es de 1,204.

El número total de mensajes enviados por el Presidente al Congreso durante el tiempo comprendido en la tabla precedente, es de 27, a saber: en 1862, 3; en 1863, 4; en 1864, 1; en 1865, 3; y en 1866, 16.

EULALIO DEGOLLADO, HIJO,
Secretario particular.

WASHINGTON, *Febrero* 24 *de* 1867.

Statement of the material work accomplished by the Mexican Legation in Washington from August 15, 1860, to December 31, 1866.

Year.	Correspondence with the Department of State of Mexico.												Correspondence with the Department of State of the United States.								Correspondence with the consulates of Mexico in the United States, Mexican legations abroad, departments of the Mexican government, and other officials of Mexico.				Private letters on official and other subjects.			
	From the legation.						From the State Department of Mexico.						From the legation.				From the State Department of Washington.				From the legation.		To the legation.		From the legation.		To the legation.	
	Number of letters.			Enclosures.	Total.	Pages.	Number of letters.			Enclosures.	Total.	Pages.	Number of letters.			Pages.	Printed pages.	Number of letters.				Number of letters and enclosures.	Pages.	Number of letters and enclosures.	Pages.	Number of letters.	Pages.	Number of letters.	Pages.
	Official.	Confidential.	Total.				Official.	Confidential.	Total.				Official.	Enclosures.	Total.			Official.	Enclosures.	Total.	Pages.								
1860	93	10	103	49	152	745	66	14	80	10	90	190	7	2	9	13	.....	4	2	6	8	46	59	51	74	201	516	193	507
1861	392	38	430	212	642	4,053	300	41	341	43	384	875	55	102	157	814	125	42	19	61	72	182	231	193	260	741	1,192	698	1,038
1862	421	8	429	472	901	4,381	106	10	116	15	131	681	61	192	253	1,834	463	32	8	40	57	160	211	176	248	908	2,524	1,019	2,635
1863	184	..	184	304	488	1,369	52	..	52	6	58	201	32	83	115	793	164	38	10	48	69	68	119	69	137	489	1,091	421	903
1864	333	..	333	365	698	2,068	74	..	74	9	83	120	64	151	215	1,181	437	58	55	113	190	221	309	237	343	1,297	2,916	1,309	2,987
1865	705	..	705	865	1,570	4,497	470	..	470	63	533	1,212	121	320	441	1,975	474	65	17	82	109	331	415	343	471	1,816	3,189	1,774	3,927
1866	903	..	903	1,289	2,192	6,678	552	..	552	74	626	1,555	136	394	530	2,338	909	115	18	133	216	293	385	310	418	1,978	3,492	1,991	4,681
Total	3,031	56	3,087	3,556	6,643	23,791	1,620	65	1,685	220	1,905	4,834	476	1,244	1,720	8,948	2,572	354	129	483	721	1,301	1,729	1,379	1,951	7,430	14,920	7,405	16,678

AGGREGATE STATEMENT OF WORK.

	Letters and enclosures to—	Pages.	Letters and enclosures from—	Pages.
Department of State of Mexico	6,643	23,791	1,905	4,834
Department of State of the United States	1,720	8,948	483	721
Consulates, legations, &c., &c	1,301	1,729	1,379	1,951
Private letters	7,430	14,920	7,405	16,678
Total	17,094	49,388	11,172	24,184

GRAND TOTALS.

	Letters and enclosures.	
	Number.	Pages.
From the legation	17,094	49,388
To the legation	11,172	24,184
	28,266	73,572

This correspondence is contained in 45 bound large volumes, as follows: Correspondence to the State Department of Mexico, 24 volumes; from that department, 5; to the State Department at Washington, 7; from the Washington State Department, 2; to and from different Mexican officials, 3; and private letters received, 4.

The year 1860 can be taken as an average of the ordinary work of the legation in normal times. During all the time embraced in the preceding statement Mr. Romero has been at the head of the Mexican legation. He arrived in Washington on the 24th of December, 1859, as secretary of legation, José M. Mata being then the minister. On the 14th of August, 1860, Mr. Mata left New York for Vera Cruz, accrediting Mr. Romero as chargé d'affaires *ad interim* to the State Department. Mr. Romero presented his letters of credence on the 16th to Mr. William Henry Trescott, Assistant Secretary of State, then Acting Secretary. On the 26th of May, 1862, Mr. Romero presented his credentials to the Department of State as chargé d'affaires near the government of the United States, they being signed by General Doblado, minister of foreign affairs of Mexico, on the 3d of April. On the 23d of April, 1863, Mr. Romero notified Mr. Seward that he had received a leave of absence of which he would avail himself. He took leave of President Lincoln on the 27th; left Washington the next day, and New York on the 16th of May following.

Mr. Romero returned to New York on the 23d of October, 1863, as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from Mexico to the United States, and presented his credentials to President Lincoln on the 29th of the same month, having since remained in Washington in that character.

Out of 2,155 days that Mr. Romero has been in the United States (counting five full years, 139 days in 1860 and 190 in 1863) he has only spent out of Washington, and always on official business, 306 days, as follows: in 1860, 6; in 1861, 31; in 1862, 36; in 1863, 29; in 1864, 96; in 1865, 89; and in 1866, 19; having passed in Washington 1,849 days.

While Mr. Romero was acting as chargé d'affaires he only had one attaché to the legation; Mr. Mariano Degollado first, and Mr. J. Escobar y Armendariz afterwards. He was at some intervals alone. Since he returned as full minister he has had two or three assistants, Mr. Mariscal having been during all that time the secretary of legation.

The total number of official interviews which Mr. Romero had with the Secretary of State, the Hon. William H. Seward, from the 2d of September, 1861, to the 31st of December, 1866, is 109, as follows: As chargé d'affaires, (to the 23d of May, 1863,) 63; as minister, (from the 27th of October, 1863,) 46; and 26 with the President of the United States on official business, as follows: with President Buchanan, 3; with President Lincoln, 15; with President Johnson, 8. Total, 135.

During the two years and a half that the republican government of Mexico was in the State of Chihuahua their communication with the republic and the outer world was entirely cut off, and they depended upon their legation at Washington to hear from the central, southern, and eastern parts of Mexico, from the United States and Europe. All the mails for the Mexican government, including newspapers for President Juarez and his cabinet, had to be sent to Mr. Romero, the duties of the legation increasing thereby considerably, as it was necessary to keep an active correspondence with several Mexican generals in the field, and with friends of Mexico in France and other places in Europe and South America. Besides this, and the regular functions of a minister, Mr. Romero has been charged with the purchase of arms and munitions of war, the chartering of steamers to carry to Mexico the war material, the printing of Mexican bonds, and the negotiation of them in the market, and the making of contracts for several other purposes, the circulation of the official paper of the Mexican government, &c., &c.

The appreciation by the United States government of Mr. Romero's correspondence is shown by the fact that Congress has often asked the President, in a special manner, for Mr. Romero's letters, and the President has sent out of 489 letters, which Mr. Romero has addressed to the State Department, 371, in the following manner: of 1861, 27; 1862, 35; 1863, 21; 1864, 54; 1865, 115; 1866, 119. Total number of enclosures sent to Congress and published, 1,204.

The total number of messages on Mexican affairs sent by the President to Congress during the time embraced in the preceding statement is 27, as follows: in 1862, 3; in 1863, 4; in 1864, 1; in 1865, 3; and in 1866, 16.

EULALIO DEGOLLADO, JR.,
Private Secretary.

WASHINGTON, *February* 24, 1867.

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